

•Letters, Letters, & More Letters...

Our readers talk back again and again inside



AGAWAM

Advertiser News

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Volume XVII Number 42

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

October 27, 1994

Riverside Employees Irate; Rally Around Park Boss Ed Carroll

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Dismayed at the personal attacks aimed at Riverside Park President Edward Carroll, Jr. by opponents of casino gambling, the park's employees are rallying behind their boss.

Before reporting to their assigned places last Saturday morning, Riverside employees gathered for a group photo to demonstrate their solidarity and to show that Riverside is an important part of town.

The employees are solidly behind Carroll in a bid that he says will save his business by adding a casino/resort to the amusement park. They are convinced the park will eventually close due to unfair competition from a theme park at Foxwoods, a casino/theme park proposed by the Wampanoags in New Bedford, and a casino/hotel/entertainment complex proposed for Springfield.

In her 28 years working at Riverside, Vi Lacroix has become a fixture at the park. Customers she remembers as children are now bringing their children to her refreshment stand. Known as the ice cream lady, the 72 year-old Agawam resident stated her support for the casino. "We need it because of what's happening (at Foxwoods and New Bedford). We're going to be left out," Mrs. Lacroix said.

Mrs. Lacroix said her three children went through college by working at Riverside.

Part-time ride operator Ray Watson said, "Riverside will be history without a casino."

Watson said the park and the employees came first and second with Edward Carroll, Sr., "and Ed Carroll, Jr. is the same way."

Rose Marie Celik, owner of Rosie's Restaurant (opposite Riverside), said she favors the casino because it will be good for the economy.

People Will Feel The Loss

"It will create jobs and taxes will go down," Ms. Celik said. "The bottom line is if the park doesn't get the casino, it will close. And when it does, people are going to feel it."

Robert Munson, director of merchandising, productions, and park development, said he was "outraged that Ed Carroll has been called a liar."

While he respects opinions opposed to siting a casino next to Riverside Amusement Park, Executive Vice-President Robert Freeman is annoyed with opposition remarks demeaning Carroll as a liar, a greedy businessman, and a millionaire.

"All of these things are absolutely not true," Freeman said in an interview with *The AAN*.

Freeman said much has been made at public hearings and in letter writing campaigns of the fact that Carroll doesn't live in Agawam. "They even tried to stain that, as if there is something wrong with living in Longmeadow."

"I resent these personal attacks on Ed Carroll. He's a good man who's been good to this town," Freeman said. "He lives in the same house he bought when he came home from the Korean War. He is not a wealthy man. He puts everything back into this business year after year."

SEE RIVERSIDE - Page 15...

They're Back - Trick Or Treat Fully Returns To Town's Streets

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Concern over a safe Halloween for Agawam's children was the top priority at the October 24th meeting of the townwide Safety Committee formed last year by parent Susan Dempsey.

Associate Superintendent of Schools Donald Charest was not aware of any community based parties being planned for Halloween night. Charest said he has received no requests for the use of the schools on Halloween.

Last year's chairwoman of C.A.S.H. Committee, which had been sponsoring Halloween night activities for children for nearly 20 years, confirmed that no parties are planned for this year.

While she regrets the loss of such a long-standing tradition in Agawam, parent Lynn O'Brien said she was unable to get enough volunteers to help with organizing the event, which last year drew 1,000 children.

"I'm planning on working with the safety officer (Sergeant Gary Nardi) next year to get the parties started again," Mrs. O'Brien said. "Hopefully, we can get enough people next year."

While serving as the town's safety officer, former Police Chief Stanley Chmielewski began the parties to assure a safe Halloween for the children and many town residents assumed trick or treating had been banned in Agawam.

Over the years, PTO support for the parties

diminished as parents, under pressure from work and family obligations, often do not have the time to devote to the project. Also, many parents and children preferred traditional neighborhood trick or treating and neighborhood parties.

Responsibility Ultimately Rests With Parents

The safety committee agreed that the responsibility for children's safety on Halloween ultimately rests with the parents.

SEE TRICK OR TREAT - Page 2...



Huge Turnout For Mike Walsh Testimonial



STATE REP. MICHAEL P. WALSH was honored at a testimonial dinner at Chez Josef on Thursday, October 20th. A crowd of 550 attended. Walsh and his wife, Mary, are pictured with Mary's parents, Walter & Alberta McLaughlin (left) and Michael's parents, Judge William T. & Rosalie Walsh. MORE PHOTOS INSIDE. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Council Agenda For November 9th Meeting

1. Citizen's Speak Time
2. Roll Call
3. Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance
4. Minutes - Regular Council Meeting of 10/17/94
5. Declaration from Council President
6. Presentation of Petitions, Memorials & Remonstrances

(a) Resolutions

1. TR-94-26-Resolution Adopting an Order of Public Notice for the Pending Assessment of the Cost of the Raymond Circle Ground Water Pumping Facility Benefiting Property Owners Within the Service Area of the Project (Mayor).

2. TR-94-27-Resolution Establishing Stop Signs at the Intersection of Silver Street, Perry Lane and Pembroke Lane (Mayor).

7. Report of Council Committees

8. Elections

None.

9. Public Hearings

None.

10. Old Business

(a) Orders

1. TOR-94-7(PH-94-14)-An Ordinance to Amend the Code of the Town of Agawam, Ch. 180, Art. X, Sec. 180-60B and Ch. 180, Art. XI, Sec. 180-66D (Mayor) (Second Reading).

2. TOR-94-8-An Ordinance Regulating Trespassing and Loitering in Schools and School Zones in the Town of Agawam (Mayor) (Third Reading).

3. TO-94-49-Approval of Class I, II & III Dealer Licenses for 1995 (Coun. Bitzas).

4. TO-94-50-Transfer-\$5,800 from Reserve Fund (7000-5600-R551) to Raymond Circle Ground Water Pump (Mayor).

NO ONE covers all the local news like us, every week
ADVERTISER NEWS

TRICK OR TREAT - from Page 1...

Along with the common sense safety tips for Halloween, committee members Susan Pettazoni and Mrs. Dempsey stressed the importance of parents being aware that many of their elderly neighbors may be afraid to answer their doors or have difficulty in getting to the door. Many seniors normally leave their outdoor lights on (the traditional signal that trick or treaters are welcome) for safety's sake and may not be indicating a willingness to be visited by the children.

Charest said it was important to encourage parents to stick to their own neighborhoods when taking their children out trick or treating.

"If parents are sticking to their neighborhoods, they know who their neighbors are," Charest said. Sgt. Nardi said, "The message for parents is to know where your children are."

Nardi said the Police Department is taking the usual precaution of assigning extra officers to the night shift and auxiliary officers will be patrolling public buildings on Halloween night.

The Safety Committee unanimously endorsed the following tips for a safe Halloween provided by the Western Mass. SAFE KIDS Coalition at Baystate Medical Center.

- Apply face paint or cosmetics directly to your face instead of wearing a loose-fitting mask. If you wear a mask, be sure the eye holes are big enough so you can see.

- Take a flashlight.

- Make sure your costume is short enough to avoid tripping over it.

- Secure hats so they will not slip over your eyes.

- Wear shoes that fit. Mom's heels or dad's work boots are not safe for trick-or-treating.

- Carry only flexible knives, swords, or other props.

- Do not cut across yards. Stay on the sidewalks.

- Decorate your costume, bags, and sacks with reflective tape.

Fire Wise

by Fire Chief David Pisano Microwave Safety Concerning Baby Food

Over 120,000 scald burns are treated in emergency rooms each year. The Agawam Fire Department warns that a new source of scald burns to infants is serving them both liquids and solid foods that have been prepared in a microwave oven.

- Hot liquids poured into disposable bottles may cause these bottles to burst, soaking the infant.

- Disposable bottles are not made to withstand intense microwave oven heat.

- Food microwaved may feel cool to the touch on the surface, only to be scalding hot in the middle. Many infants receive scald burns to the mouth and throat because of this.

- Parents should test the temperature of the baby's food before feeding the child.

- Additionally, parents should follow the directions provided by the bottle's manufacturer for heating instructions.

For further information, contact the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM LIQUOR LICENSING COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given under General Laws, Chapter 138, that Christo's Restaurant, Christos Kalaitzidis, Manager, 644 Suffield Street, Agawam, MA, has applied for License to sell Liquors and Cordials. Public Hearing to be held on Tuesday, November 8, 1994, at 7:00 P.M., in the Faolin Peirce Room, Agawam Police Headquarters, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA.

AGAWAM LIQUOR LICENSING COMMISSION
RICHARD A. DILULLO, CHAIRMAN
JOHN J. CHRISCOLA, JR.
ROBERT VANDERHOOF

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George Parkis 786-2774
CENTURY 21 Heritage 786-3111

DAN KEENAN ON THE ISSUES...

CRIME

DAN KEENAN WILL BE TOUGH ON FIGHTING CRIME

PREVENTION: Fund DARE Programs, Child Abuse, & Domestic Violence Programs.

PROTECTION: Provide Funds For Additional Police Officers, Better Training, & Equipment For Law Enforcement.

PUNISHMENT: Provide Funding For Additional Prisons, Enforce Truth In Sentencing. Dan Keenan Supports The Reinstatement Of The Death Penalty.

"It's time we stop talking about fighting crime and really do something about it. I will be a leader in the fight against crime."

"I believe in the sportsman's right to bear arms, but I also believe in responsible government which protects our neighborhoods and families first."

Dan Keenan

WELFARE REFORM

DAN KEENAN BELIEVES WE MUST END WELFARE AS WE KNOW IT TODAY!!

- ** No Benefits Unless Recipient Is:
 - * In School
 - * Found Employment
 - * In Job Training Or Community Service

"I support welfare reform which removes the cash from recipients' hands."

Dan Keenan

CASINO GAMBLING

DAN KEENAN IS OPPOSED TO CASINO GAMBLING

"I don't believe gambling is the answer to our economic problems."

"I want to create jobs that pay a living wage, with real long-term economic benefits"

Dan Keenan

EDUCATION

DAN KEENAN BELIEVES IN QUALITY EDUCATION

- * Opposed To Public Funding To Private Schools
- * Empowering Our Local School Systems
- * Endorsed By The Massachusetts Teachers Association

"I will work to ensure quality public education for all."

Dan Keenan

A HARD WORKER... A GOOD LISTENER...

DAN KEENAN

"THE QUALIFIED CANDIDATE"

"A NEW LEADER ... NOT A POLITICIAN"





Letters To The Editor

Casino Will Bring In Some Dangerous People

To The Editor:

I am writing this regarding the proposed casino in Agawam. Yes, the casino may be a great help with Agawam's budget, but what about the people? Casinos bring many different kinds of people, and some of these people are going to be dangerous. If you are concerned about the people who live here, you will vote to reject the casino.

I live near Riverside Park and the last thing I want to worry about is being killed or having my house robbed. Do we really want our town to become commercial like Las Vegas, Atlantic City, or Reno? They are violent, overpopulated, and dangerous. You can't walk the streets at night without feeling like you may be mugged or killed.

If you are worried about creating more jobs in Agawam, do it in a more constructive way.

I am against the casino for the above reasons, as well as the fact that it is morally wrong. The people who can often least afford to do it will be drawn there, hoping to make fast money. Adults and children are affected by gambling.

Please vote NO on Question No. 11.

Sincerely,
Gwen Gonyea (a concerned student)
Agawam

Being A Paid Lobbyist Not In Our Best Interests

To The Editor:

Dan Keenan's latest political advertisement on page three of *The Agawam Advertiser News* gave James Taylor some free press.

The advertisement said of Mr. Taylor that he, (Taylor) was "JUST ANOTHER TYPICAL POLITICIAN."

While that statement may be true, Mr. James Taylor is more than just another typical politician. He is a paid lobbyist and it is evident that he did not want the voters of the Third Hampden District to know about it.

A typical politician is one thing, but a paid lobbyist is another. To James Taylor the paid lobbyist, I say ... NO WAY!

Chris Wyckoff
Agawam

As Riverside Park Goes, So Goes Town Of Agawam

To The Editor:

AS RIVERSIDE GOES, SO GOES AGAWAM. Let me keep it short and sweet. If Riverside does not get the casino they are proposing, they may go out of business. If Riverside closes down, then unemployment goes up; tax revenue is lost; your property taxes go up; your services go down; your schools begin to deteriorate; people move out; property values drop; and the character of Agawam will surely change.

Not a pretty sight if you ask me.

Sincerely,
Tom W. Sacco, Jr.
Feeding Hills

Taylor Is Most Concerned About Town's Future

To The Editor:

I will vote for Jim Taylor for State Representative because he is concerned about the future of our town and our state.

He knows the issues that are important to this district and he wants to be involved in shaping the future of Massachusetts because decisions made in Boston effect Western Massachusetts.

He is a man with integrity and experience on the local and state level, having brought the concerns of Agawam residents to the State House many times and he has gotten positive results such as badly needed money for road repairs.

He has researched issues and lobbied for Agawam as well as the Gun Owner's Action League. His opponent has tried to make an issue of Jim's work for GOAL when there is no conflict of interest.

Throwing a lot of mud, valid or not, is where the phrase "dirty politics" came from. Hoping some of it sticks is what they do want to achieve. Jim has been fortunate in that he has been compensated for his work for GOAL as I'm sure his opponent is for the work he does.

I know Jim has put in a tremendous amount of hours as council president that his salary hardly covers. He works hard because he is committed to the people he represents. I applaud Jim and his advisors for running a clean campaign.

"Letters To The Editor" in past weeks have suggested that a law degree is necessary to be a state representative. Not true. Many good legislators, past and present, have had no such degree, even those who wrote our Constitution and gave us those sound premises to build our present laws upon and those premises have stood the test of over 200 years. Jim has made a practice of reading laws and he understands and can explain the effects they will have, not just the obvious one.

Jim Taylor is honest, caring, and hard working. Jim Taylor made a choice to remain in Agawam and work to protect and improve Agawam. When the House is not in session, he will be among us.

I urge every registered voter in Agawam to go to the polls on November 8th and vote for Jim Taylor.

Sue Hoague
Feeding Hills

This Is Not First Time Gambling Came To Agawam

To The Editor:

This is not the first time promoters of big time gambling thought they could put it in Agawam. Because of a yes vote on a non-binding referendum question for a racetrack, the people of Agawam had to fight Pioneer Valley Raceway, both in 1977 and in 1979.

Their target was the old Bowles Airport on Silver Street, which had been a racetrack in the 1930's. There is an Industrial Park now where a racetrack would have been had we not fought. The yes vote on a racetrack was not our fault, as it had been on all the ballots in the western part of the state. This time, it will be an Agawam vote. If we get a casino, it will be our fault.

The *Union News* of October 24th reports Lady Luck Gaming Corp. of Las Vegas has spent \$166,071 to encourage Agawam voters to say yes to Question 11 on November 8th. I think Lady Luck gambled and lost. There is no amount of money that can influence the people of Agawam to say yes to anything that will harm their town.

The promises for letting a racetrack in were the same as they are for a casino. It's called brainwashing when they tell you all the wonderful things you are about to receive. I remember the

racetrack promoters, among other things, promising increased business for restaurants and bars.

There was a letter in *The Agawam Advertiser* in 1979 that answered this claim. A sentence in this letter is as true of a casino in 1994 as it was of a racetrack then. It said, "Most people, when they leave a racetrack, have already eaten and some are already drunk."

Promoters have no knowledge of the "Golden Rule," for they will do unto your town what they would never do unto their town. Mr. Ryan of Pioneer Valley Raceway would never put a racetrack in South Hadley where he lived. Mr. Carroll of Riverside would never put a casino in Longmeadow where he lives.

Some years back, Agawam was referred to as a "bedroom community." Some things did get in because we were sleeping. Let us all be wide awake on November 8th.

Vote NO on Question 11 and don't let Main Street, Agawam become the road to a casino.

Mary Ghedi
Agawam

System Works For Lobbyists; It's A Good Old Boy System

To The Editor:

I was amazed at the statement State Representative candidate James Taylor made regarding lobbyists. Here's how it goes.

First, Mr. Taylor became a lobbyist and got paid \$6,000.00 for four months part-time work. Next, he made all the contacts he could as a lobbyist with the State House "Good Old Boys," and resigned as a lobbyist to run for state representative.

If elected your State Representative, Jim would be right at home with the "Good Old Boys" and other lobbyists.

Mr. Taylor then suggested that if you get beat or choose not to run, just go back to being a lobbyist (of course, after you made more contacts as a State Representative).

If this is how the system works for Mr. Taylor, I suggest that voters consider voting for the NON-LOBBYIST candidate DAN KEENAN.

Janis Phaneuf
Feeding Hills

SEE LETTERS - Page 6...

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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Saturday, October 29th
Springfield Turnverein's
Annual Craft Fair
176 Garden St., Feeding Hills
To rent craft space, call 592-4219

Wednesday, November 2nd
Feeding Hills Women's Club
At Grange Hall, N. West St., F.H.
7:30 p.m.

Friday, November 4th
Friends & C.O.A. Annual Dinner
At Agawam Senior Center
Tickets available at Senior Center
(Donation is \$12 per person)
Social hour: 6:30 p.m.
Dinner: 7:00 p.m.

Friday, November 4th
"First Friday Series" presents
The New Valley Singers (sponsored
by the Agawam Cultural Council)
At Agawam Public Library
(Free and open to the public)
7:30 p.m.

Sunday, November 6th
Harvest Pancake Breakfast
At the Agawam Lions' Club,
Eastern States Expo grounds
Servings from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
Tickets available at door
or from any Lions Club member
(Adults \$3.50, children \$2.50)



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THE FACTS ON QUESTION 11

AN OPEN LETTER FROM ED CARROLL TO ALL AGAWAM RESIDENTS

Dear Friend:

Over the past weeks, we have worked hard to let everyone know why Riverside needs to add a riverboat casino next to our park as an added attraction. In order to stay in business, and to protect the 1,600 job we provide for the area, we need to be able to compete with the Foxwoods and New Bedford casino projects that are building huge amusement parks.

We researched our proposal closely, and decided to move forward only after we were convinced that it would **not** cause any harm to our wonderful community. **In fact, the benefits to Agawam will be substantial - Thousands of new jobs, and Millions of dollars in new tax revenue that will keep your property taxes down and enable Agawam to dramatically improve town services.**

Unfortunately, untrue rumors about "problems" continue to float around town.

We want you to have the facts so that you can make an informed decision on November 8th. Anyone with any questions on the project should feel free to drop by the River Belle II Information Center we opened at 517 Springfield Street. We want to answer your questions, and we pledge to continue working closely with the entire community. Together, we can improve Agawam's economic future! Please **vote "YES" on Question No. 11.**

Very Truly Yours,
Ed Carroll, Jr.
President, Riverside Park

FACT NO. 1: THE REAL ISSUE IS AGAWAM'S ECONOMIC FUTURE.

The River Belle II Project will generate **\$5 Million to \$7 Million Dollars in NEW REVENUE for the Town of Agawam.** Resources that will **Hold Down Property Taxes**, and give Agawam funds needed for **Education, Public Safety, Senior Programs, and other projects.** The River Belle II Project **will also create 1,500 new Permanent Full Time Jobs.**

FACT NO. 2: THE RUMOR ABOUT "TRAFFIC PROBLEMS" IS JUST PLAIN WRONG.

Traffic WILL NOT BE A PROBLEM. VHB, Inc., the largest Traffic Planning and Engineering firm in New England performed a comprehensive analysis of the project. **The results are clear -** traffic impacts will be **very minimal** and **very manageable.** Please drop by the Information Center and review the study and the conclusions that are based on facts, not rumors.

FACT NO. 3: THE RUMOR ABOUT "CRIME PROBLEMS" IS JUST PLAIN WRONG.

Crime WILL NOT BE A PROBLEM. We have always had a **close working relationship with the Agawam Police Department.** We support **strict regulation of casino gaming.** Our site is not a street-front casino, it is on a **secluded parcel of land** far away from the roadway. And studies show that **crime does NOT increase**, in fact in many areas it has actually decreased. Don't let anyone convince you that this will somehow increase crime - because it will not.

VOTE "YES" ON QUESTION NO. 11

Hold The Line On Property Taxes. Create More Jobs.

LETTERS - from Page 4...

Riverside President Says \$\$\$\$ Will Go Directly To Town**To The Editor:**

As election day draws near, many people have come up to me to discuss how the \$5-7 million in new revenue gets into the town budget and how the money should be spent.

The money that comes into the town from this project will go directly from Riverside into Agawam's general fund. The politicians in Boston will never get the chance to reroute this money. It will go directly into the Town of Agawam.

Riverside Park will not be involved in how the money is spent. The town will decide, itself, how best to use the money from our project. We believe as taxpayers to the town that we all should have an equal say in how any money is spent. It will be up to you (the people of Agawam) to tell those who govern how you wish the \$5-7 million to be spent.

Many people have told me that we desperately need to supply the schools with books, computers, and other supplies so that the children have the best opportunity to learn. Five schools need to be enlarged so that there is a lower student to teacher ratio. These educational projects could start the first year when our complex is in operation.

I was at the Information Center the other day and spoke to an elderly person who said that we needed an addition to the Senior Center. She thinks that the current center is a great place to stay active, but because it is such a popular place for the senior in town, they need more room.

We have to look into some of the cost for the expansion. It is estimated that it would cost approximately \$1 million to provide the facility that is needed and well-deserved by our seniors. We would hope that his project would be put high on the priority list.

Other projects that have been discussed have been a new DPW garage, a new fire house, an upgrade to our recreational field, and many more. We believe that all of these projects could be accomplished over time without raising any taxes in town. We believe that Agawam will have just one chance at this opportunity, and that will be on November 8th.

It is a choice that the people of Agawam need to make, and we hope that you choose to let us proceed with our project. By voting for this proposal, you will be saying I want Agawam to have first-rate schools. I want Agawam to have the best facilities for our seniors. I want Agawam to provide the services we need without having to raise tax rates.

I want to keep Agawam first.

Very truly yours,
Edward Carroll, Jr.
Riverside Park

Unity Chain Forming Nov. 5th To Fight Proposed Casinos**To The Editor:**

On November 5th, there will be a "UNITY CHAIN" to show opposition for a casino in Agawam. The townspeople that feel this way are invited to stand on Main Street from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

I ask that you only stand where there is a sidewalk. Please do not obstruct driveways or business ways!

PLEASE remember to vote on November 8, 1994 and I ask the voters of this town to vote NO on Question 11. NO Casino for our town!

If you would like to help hold a sign on Election Day, please call 786-1982.

Joann McGeoghan
Agawam

Town Deserves Direction From Mayor On Casino**To The Editor:**

A few weeks ago, an article appeared in the newspaper focusing on the problem of gambling among our students at the high school. How many of these same students will try to gain entrance with false ID's to a casino at Riverside Park?

As Chairman of the School Committee, how can Mayor Johnson take a non-partisan position on this proposed blight on our beautiful community? Stand up and be counted, Mayor Johnson! You owe it to our youth and also to the many who voted and put you in office.

Because of the lack of public officials taking a stand against, **WE** the majority of the people will defeat this proposed casino. It will be a "GRASS ROOTS" victory!!!!

We don't need the social and the traffic problems. Say NO, pull lever No. 11.

Mary Jane Stuart
Agawam

Candidate Should Have Told Us He Was A Lobbyist**To The Editor:**

I have just finished reading this week's "Agawam Advertiser-News" (the October 20th issue).

It is apparent to me that James Taylor, a candidate for State Representative, conveniently omitted from his background information that he is a registered paid lobbyist.

It is also apparent to me that if Dan Keenan had not enlightened the citizens of this most important fact, the voters would not have known until after the election.

Therefore, Dan Keenan should be congratulated for telling it like it is, because how else would we have known.

Yours very truly,
Sandra Maggi
Agawam

Casino Will Set Bad Example For Agawam's Children**To The Editor:**

In all the promotions for casino gambling bringing money to Agawam, no one seems to have mentioned the example we are setting for the youth and children of our town.

Everyone seems more concerned with the environmental impact or the traffic impact, not to mention the type of persons who flock around gambling enterprises.

We seem to be saying gambling itself is the way to finance our government and our schools.

Mr. Carroll is promising us child care facilities. Thank you, Mr. Carroll, but I don't think children playing video games is really caring for children.

Come to Agawam and gamble? This is not the picture of a town which really cares for people.

Sincerely,
Dorothy Major
1108 Main St.
Agawam

Casino Will Adversely Effect Town's Quality Of Life**To The Editor:**

As a concerned citizen who lives in Agawam and works in downtown Springfield, I am opposed to casino gambling. As a transplanted New Yorker, perhaps I see the beauty and quality of life in Western Massachusetts a little differently than those of you who were born here.

Believe me, it is no fun sitting in traffic for a half hour or more to get to and from work every day. You don't want to constantly be looking over your shoulder as you walk in your neighborhood on what were once safe streets.

Please vote NO against casino gambling. There are other alternatives that new and bright leaders can bring to this area!

Sincerely,
Susan Mastroianni
86 Silver Street
Agawam

State Rep. Candidate Omits Info About Being Lobbyist**To The Editor:**

Why would a candidate for high public office fail to disclose, to his constituents, that he is a paid lobbyist?

How many voters in the Third Hampden District were aware that JAMES TAYLOR is a paid lobbyist? I wonder just how many actually did not know. I, for one, am in total amazement to learn that James Taylor is a paid lobbyist, which brings me to this question.

How well do the people of Agawam really know James Taylor? First, it was the alleged secret meeting in Mayor Johnson's office which Mr. Taylor refuses to discuss. Now, it is the secret paid lobbyist job.

Shall we anticipate any further astonishing revelations before the November 8th election?

Pauline Slate
Southwick

SEE LETTERS - Page 7...



We want to thank everyone who attended my testimonial on Thursday, October 20th. The evening was made very special to us by your presence.

We also want to express our appreciation to the Agawam Democratic Town Committee for honoring me. Our special thanks go to Ron and Gail Hebert, Joanne and Jim Willis, Barbara Barton Dunn, Cathy Sheehan, and all the members of the Town Committee who worked so hard to make the event possible. Your kindness and hard work are deeply appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Michael and Mary Walsh

LETTERS - from Page 6...

Casino Will Save, Add Jobs;
Casino Will Help Economy

To The Editor:

We have the opportunity to save 1,500-plus jobs at Riverside Park, jobs that many students and senior citizens rely on every season, and create approximately 1,500 more year-round positions.

This is a POSITIVE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON ALL RESIDENTS OF AGAWAM.

Wages spent in local business help our merchants prosper and they hire people creating more jobs. Real estate taxes paid by Riverside Park lessen our tax burden. What would the rate be if this business were no longer here?

WE WILL MISS THE WATER IF THE WELL RUNS DRY! Money to run our city, buy educational supplies for our educational facilities, improvements to our public roadways, etc. must come from somewhere and we, the property owners, will cough up the difference.

Riverside Park has been a mainstay in Agawam as well as in the Carroll family for three generations. It is a family and community oriented establishment and prides itself on being a good neighbor. The historic makeup, environment, and traffic problems cited by the opponents of River Belle II can be resolved by our elected officials and Riverside working together as a team to make it work well for everyone.

REMEMBER, the River Belle II is only 25 percent the size of Foxwoods.

Should another city in Hampden County be chosen for Casino gambling, Agawam may still have to address some of the problems cited by the opponents and no revenues to handle them as well as no financial rewards that are projected.

If Springfield gets it, don't be fooled ... a possible "Atlantic City" will be IN YOUR BACK YARD. Springfield is just across the bridge. Riverside's proposal will be much more controllable based on its location and size.

Don't let the NOT IN MY BACK YARD attitude and superficial problems that can and I am sure will be resolved appropriately stop our economic future and revenues we need to make this town prosper ... VOTE YES ON November 8th ... Let's not miss the boat and possibly lose all the way around.

Sincerely,
Bob & Peggy Webb
102 Pineview Circle
Agawam

Shoemaker Industrial Park
Under Fire From Residents

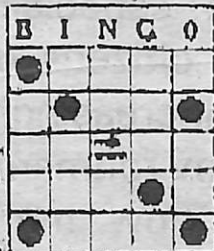
To The Editor:

Agawam—a community proud of its heritage, spacious farms, quiet residential developments, and growth of suburban integrity—is dangerously close to ruining the aesthetic beauty of one of its newest industrial parks and surrounding residential areas.

Shoemaker Industrial Park, owned in part by Park West Bank, stands off Shoemaker Road on Moylan Lane with eight parcels zoned for light industrial A. The bank is selling two parcels to Responsive Trucking, a tractor trailer company which (in turn) must and has applied for a special zoning permit to relocate to the park.

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OUR LADY OF
THE LAKE CHURCH

Sheep Pasture Road
Southwick

We are against the special zoning since the quality of life in the park, the surrounding residential areas, and in essence, the whole community will suffer. A company consisting of 40 to 50 trailers with 16 tractors doing business 24 hours a day, seven days a week, will pose major problems for the area.

1. Property would be devalued and economic growth halted since other light industries would not relocate to the area with a trucking company as a neighbor (two have already explicitly stated so).

2. Increase of noise pollution is a given. Imagine trying to sleep on a Saturday morning or rest with your children after a day at work and hearing the gears and squealing of 18-wheelers in the neighborhood.

3. The safety of our children is being compromised. The school buses are picking up and discharging children at all hours, beginning as early as 7:00 a.m. (with children crossing to either side of the street along the truck route).

4. One industry has already built in the park with a 30,000 square-foot building which is landscaped beautifully. A trucking company, in essence, would be a huge parking lot.

We ask that given the importance of this issue, the Zoning Board of Appeals can and will take a responsible stand on the special permit application for the park. As residents who care about the future of our community and our homes, we ask that the special zoning permit be denied.

Agawam residents Donald J. Richards, Charles L. Bishop, Jr., Edward H. Lewis, Jr., Manno M. McCarthy, John J. McCarthy, Marie Bryan, Michael Byrne, Linda Byrne, Kenneth Bryan, Jackie Medeiros, Anthony Maloni, Cynthia Maloni, and Florence Del Negro

Union Chief Urges Yes Vote
On Ballot Question 8

To The Editor:

Anyone who has driven in Massachusetts recently doesn't need to be told about the poor condition of our roads and bridges. A recent USA Today survey ranked Massachusetts the second worst in the nation for busy bridges in need or repair or replacement. Four of the 25 worst bridges in the country are right here in Massachusetts.

In July 1990, a 10-cent per gallon increase in the gas tax was passed into law with the express purpose of funding bridge and highway repair. In November 1990, voters confirmed the gas tax increase by overwhelmingly defeating a statewide referendum that would have repealed it.

But in June 1991, Governor Weld decided to use the gas tax funds to balance the budget, and transferred \$235 million from the Highway Fund to the General Fund. Governor Weld is currently withholding \$510 million of already collected gas tax monies rather than release them for their intended purpose, road and bridge repair, which would create thousands of construction jobs, much needed in our lagging economy.

We shouldn't have to wait for another bridge to

collapse, such as the 1993 I-95 bridge in Connecticut that killed three people or the 1987 Amster-dam, New York collapse that killed 10, or the 1988 Tennessee collapse that killed eight, before we act.

By voting yes on Question 8 this November, we can ensure that gas tax monies already earmarked for the state highway fund will actually be spent on repairing roads and bridges.

Question 8 does not raise taxes - it simply directs the state government to spend existing revenues on their intended purposes.

I urge you, Vote Yes on Question 8!!!

Sincerely,
Douglas W. Bodman
Business Manager
I.B.E.W. Local 7

Couple Next To Riverside
Park Welcomes Casino Project

To The Editor:

I was born and brought up on 32 South Street. Now my husband and I live at 1730 Main Street, opposite the entrance to Riverside Park.

We have owned the property since 1946 and have never had problems with Riverside Park, let it be with traffic, stock cars, concerts, etc. In fact, I can remember going to Riverside with my parents in the late 20's. Everyone enjoyed the amusement park.

When the park closed in the 30's, it was devastating. Since Mr. Carroll Sr. opened the park in 1940, everyone enjoyed the park ... including the natives of Agawam.

Now that they have come along in years, they object to the park and casino. Yet we know of many from town that go to Las Vegas, Reno, Atlantic City, and Ledyard.

Why not in Agawam?

Helen & Frank Krupczak
Agawam

Let's Keep State Rep. Seat
Here In Agawam

To The Editor:

Isn't it strange that the ex-politicians of Agawam are behind a candidate from Blandford? Why would they want to give away the State Representative's seat? Aren't they happy with the wonderful progress Agawam has made in their absence?

I urge the people of Agawam to look who is behind the candidate from Blandford before giving away something we've had for three decades.

Let's keep the State Representative from AGAWAM!

Thank you,
Carlo Zingarelli
Agawam

SEE LETTERS - Page 8...

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LETTERS - from Page 7...

A Casino In Agawam Would Be Detriment To Our Town

To The Editor:

With care and interest, I have been reading about, and listening to both sides of the gambling casino issue. This has become quite a heated debate with both proponents and opponents presenting strong arguments. For every strong argument presented in favor of building a gambling casino at Riverside Park, there is an equally strong argument presented against building one.

The main argument in favor of building a casino is that it would be an economically sound action for both the town of Agawam and for Riverside Park owner, Ed Carroll. Gambling is big business. There would definitely be an increase in tax revenue for the town, which would be swallowed up quickly by the extra police and fire department coverage needed by this type of business. And let's not forget the extra work that would be thrown at the DPW because of the added wear and tear all that extra traffic would bring to our roads. This will also help to swallow up that increased tax revenue.

And then, we will have to think about replacing the tax money we will be losing when other local businesses start to suffer losses, and possibly close down, due to this tax revenue-producing casino. Now, where is all that extra tax money for our schools?

Another argument in favor of building a casino at Riverside is that there is the possibility the Park will close down if a casino is not built there. I'm not sure I understand this connection. Is this because people will go to a casino in Springfield or New Bedford or Ledyard, CT instead of going to Riverside, a family entertainment center?

Riverside is an amusement park with rides and a race track where cars race and concerts are held. The people who patronize Riverside now are mostly children and teenagers who are too young to gamble. There may be some drop in business, but I find it difficult to believe that an established park with such a good reputation would lose enough business to have to shut down if it did not have a gambling casino.

I also wonder if Mr. Carroll has thought about any business he might lose from people who may not want to bring their children to Riverside BECAUSE there is a casino and all of its negative elements.

We are also hearing about how good Riverside has been to us all these years. We are hearing about the philanthropic life that Ed Carroll has been leading. And we are being asked to repay this generosity and kindness with a gambling casino. Personally, I would rather see a statue of Mr. Carroll, erected in his honor, gracing our town than a gambling casino and hotel complex.

Gambling, like alcoholism, is an addictive disease. And although some people feel this decision should not be based on morality, morality must be taken into consideration if we are to think about the future of our community.

If you eliminate morality from this decision, you are saying an increased crime rate is unimportant. It will not matter that people will be reduced to begging, borrowing, stealing, and perhaps even murdering in order to take care of their gambling fix.

Eliminating morality from this issue is saying that there is nothing wrong with parents allowing children to run loose in an amusement park,

among strangers, where they could easily be ill, lost, stolen, and yes, even murdered (there's that word again) and these parents may not know for hours, at the least, what has happened to their children.

Yes, I know the solution that has been suggested for this problem is to have the parents reachable by beepers. But, is this what we want to be reduced to? Do we want our children growing up believing that fun and chance come before responsibility?

By saying morality is not an issue here, you are also telling the teenagers of this community that gambling is okay. You are telling them that the get-rich-quick scheme is alive and well. This is like encouraging an alcoholic to have another drink. Like it or not, believe it or not, too many teenagers in Agawam, as well as in surrounding communities, have a gambling problem.

Like the adults they are told to model themselves after, they get into debt and will do almost anything to get out of debt. And, unfortunately, we are not talking about nickel and dime betting; we are talking about hundreds and thousands of dollars for which parents are ultimately held responsible.

Some people will say that teenagers will not be allowed in the casino because the legal age for gambling is 21. But, that is also the legal age for drinking alcohol. WAKE UP! Look around and see how many teenagers not only have access to alcohol, but are truly alcoholics. Somehow, addicts seem to find ways around the laws.

Yes, a gambling casino will create more jobs and more tax revenue, but it will also create more traffic, more crime, and a lot more headaches and heartaches for the families who live in this community.

And while we are creating these things, what are we losing? We are losing the quiet, peaceful atmosphere connected with this town. We are losing sight of our obligations to our young children and teenagers. And we are losing the good moral values so many of us try to build into our lives.

If I voted yes to this question, and the gambling casino and hotel complex stood looming in the foreground of this town, I could not live with myself knowing that beyond those gates, people were throwing away money that should be their food, shelter, and clothing all on an idea—a chance—that they might make some easy money.

Please don't tell me that morality should not be an issue here. It is very much an issue—a major one, and it must be included in the decision-making process because gambling is an issue associated with immorality as much as it is associated with economics. This whole question is based on morality vs. economics. If you vote for one, you are giving up the other.

As for myself and my family, I am voting for the moral side of this issue and not the economic one. There will always be economic problems in communities. Just like gambling cannot be a quick fix to a person's economic woes, a casino gambling complex cannot be the quick fix to a community's economic woes.

Sincerely,
Kathleen A. Mouneimneh
Feeding Hills

Boom To Local Economy Would Result From Casino

To The Editor:

My name is Loren Montagna and I reside at 55 Spring Street.

I don't know, maybe it's just me, but when someone is proposing to give this town \$5 to \$7 million a year, I find myself sitting up in my chair a little straighter and listening a lot closer to what they are proposing.

According to Riverside Park, they will be giving the Town of Agawam between \$5 and \$7 million a year in added tax revenue.

I think it is important to point out that there are absolutely no purse strings attached to this money. What I mean by purse strings is that we can spend this money anywhere or on anything we want.

One way to spend that money is to cut our tax rate. Another way is to develop our infrastructure and one way to develop our infrastructure is to buy or build things that our town needs.

Use for an example our new fire station. We could, if we were so disposed, purchase the land, build the station, then supply it and still have money left over to do something else entirely with. All of this, without having to enter into bonding.

To use yet another example, and to use Riverside Park's least favorable increase in tax revenue to this town, let's take "the tennis court land." That was the land that we were to purchase for a D.P.W. building. A building that is still very much in need today. The land would have cost the taxpayers of this town \$1.5 million and would have been divided into payments over a 15-year period.

If we had this money then and using the least favorable figure from Riverside Park (\$5 million), we could have paid cash for that land and still have \$3.5 million left over that could be used anywhere we wanted. These examples I have given you are, I believe, good examples and there are many more.

But, that in and of itself is not the reason why I am in favor of it.

So far, all I've done is talk about a few things that we could do with that money. But now I would like to move on and tell you what we have to do to get this money.

There is no easy way to say this. So, I am just going to come right out and say it. We have to allow Riverside to build a casino. At this casino, there will be gambling. Inside this issue, it seems all the other issues intertwine. People will come from all around the country to play there. Just like they normally do.

I think that most of the people have forgotten that Riverside is one of the biggest attractions in the state. One million people go there every year. Remember, the park is only open 140 days out of the year.

Some come on busses, but most drive there in their car. The fact of the matter is, if the casino is built, there will be 2.5 million more people every year. That on the surface is a lot of people, I will admit.

To make a comparison, The Big E had one million people show up over a 15-day period. That is a lot of people.

I bring this up because I don't think the traffic is going to be that bad. You all know that a traffic study has been done and they say that traffic just won't be a problem. I am certain that security at the park will be more than adequate. If additional police are needed for the town, then we will have to go out and hire more police. That is pretty simple. Lord knows we will be able to afford it.

You know one of the things that I looked at when this thing was proposed were the people

SEE LETTERS - Page 9...

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"The Council of Churches of Greater Springfield urges the preservation of a common day of rest in order to enhance the quality of life for all our residents, especially our families with children. The citizens of Massachusetts are living in an increasingly hectic and complex commercial environment, and a common day of rest is now more important than ever."

Reverend Ann Geer, Executive Director
Council of Churches of Greater Springfield, Mass.

KEEP FAMILY TIME ALIVE

VOTE NO on #5

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO KEEP FAMILY TIME ALIVE, RICHARD M. BROWN, TREASURER, 105 COLONY DRIVE, HAMPDEN, MA 01036

LETTERS - from Page 8...

that are going to run it. I tell you all that I trust Mr. Carroll. I believe him to be an honest man. I believe that he is telling us the truth when he says he cannot survive without this. I do not want his business to fail.

For many people, including me, it was my very first job. A lot of people use this job to finance their college education. Thinking back, I kind of wish now I had used it to do the same. But not only does he supply jobs, he pays taxes. What kind of taxes? You name it: INCOME TAX, REVENUE TAX, PROPERTY TAX, AND WITH ANY LUCK, SOMETIME AFTER NOVEMBER 8TH, HE WILL BE PAYING HOST COMMUNITY TAX.

Let's take a look at the ballot question. Question 11 simply asks the voters of this town, "Will the city known as the Town of Agawam allow Riverside Park to build a Casino on its own property?" That's it. That's the whole question. Nowhere does it say a hotel and it doesn't even say a Riverboat. It just says Casino.

Which brings me to the question of gambling. It is nothing new to us. The truth is, we have gambling in almost every single store in our community in the form of **The Massachusetts State Lottery**, which is your **Daily Number**, **Mass Millions**, **Megabucks**, and **Scratch Tickets**, along with **Keno**. I do not believe because the state does it, it must be right. I still believe it to be a sin and morally wrong.

If any of you are wondering if I have ever bought a lottery ticket, let me put it to you this way, "I have sinned and will more than likely sin again." I am certain that I am not alone in this.

Unlike gambling in these stores, there will be only one casino, and for most of you, it will mean you will have to travel out of your way to get to it.

Some small businessmen have registered their concerns with this project. I would like to point this out. Riverside consists of **165 acres**. Of that, the park is using **140 acres**; **22 more acres** will be used to make the casino. So, they don't have a lot of room to expand and make restaurants or movie theatres, or indoor golf ranges.

So, I don't think it's going to have a negative impact on small business.

Now, compare that to the Springfield version of a casino, which will be 10 times the size to start with than Riverside and absolutely no limit to growth or expansion. If you want to see small businesses go out of business in this town, have Springfield build its casino.

I would like to say here, that if it were simply a question that would settle this gambling issue for the state or even the local area, and it was only asked in Agawam, then I would say, defeat it! But it is not. There is no doubt in my mind that the City of Springfield will pass its casino question.

Put a casino in a place where crime runs rampant, where drug dealers are the norm of the day, where prostitution is already well established, where the casino is 10 times the size of the one here in Agawam, where people will still use our roads to get to it, and most importantly, **we, the residents of Agawam will have absolutely no say in how it is run or how big it gets**, that is, to me, a danger.

So, I must say that Agawam is the safest place for a casino to be built.

Like I said earlier, I am not in favor of this for one particular reason. Rather, I am in favor of this for a lot of reasons. On Election Day, you will see me holding up a sign that says, "Vote yes on 11." And proud to be doing so. Thank you all for reading what I have to say.

Loren Montagna
Agawam

Town Councilor Against Casinos In Hampden County

To The Editor:

Recently, the "political leadership," and specifically the members of the City Council, have been criticized for not taking a leadership role relative to the casino gambling referendum.

I am amused by the fact that the opposition apparently defines a leadership role as the voicing of opposition to the proposal. I am quite certain that if I used council time or my position on the council to advocate in favor of the casino, I would be criticized for abusing my public position.

I have considered the casino question, as I would hope all voters would approach the issue. I have listened to both sides of the issue with an open mind and tried to make a rational decision. I have not succumbed to a knee-jerk reaction for or against casino gambling and then tried to find reasons to justify my position.

My initial reaction to the question is that I wish they were asking my opinion on casino gambling in Western Massachusetts. That question would definitely get my NO vote. My concern, however, is that a casino is likely to be built somewhere in Hampden County, bringing many of the potential negative impacts to Agawam, while not delivering any of the hoped-for benefits.

It is my opinion that the true impact of the casino lies somewhere between the gloom and doom predictions of the opposition and the boon to Agawam foretold by the proponents. Unfor-

tunately, we will never know the true impact of a casino in Agawam, until we have a casino in Agawam.

That fact, more than any other, has led me to the decision that Agawam should not take the chance of adopting casino gambling in Agawam. If the proponents are right and the casino brings positive financial gain to the Town and its citizens, without any significant negative impact, then we will have missed an opportunity, but will not be any worse off than we are now.

However, if the opponents are right, and the casino brings with it an increase in crime and traffic, and a drain on other businesses, we will have a major problem that will take years to correct.

This brings me back to my original point, i.e., I would like to keep casino gambling out of Hampden County. I do not have the opportunity to cast a vote on that issue, so I will cast the only vote which will keep alive the possibility of blocking casino gambling in Hampden County. If Agawam, and all of the surrounding cities and towns, vote down casino gambling, we will have preserved the character of the Pioneer Valley.

The citizens of Agawam should not fool themselves into believing that a defeat of casino gambling in Agawam will negate all impacts of casino gambling in Agawam. If a casino is approv-

ed in Springfield, we must be fully prepared to deal with many of the negative impacts of casino gambling, without the funds that would be generated from a casino in Agawam.

If compulsive gamblers are going to lose their money at a casino, and then turn to crime to recoup their losses, those criminal activities will not halt at the Connecticut River. Criminals drive cars. If a casino is going to drain money from restaurants, movie theaters, and other small businesses, that drain will occur if the casino is in Agawam, Springfield, or any other place in Hampden County. Gamblers drive cars.

This question is not as simple as either side portrays it. A yes vote will not bring unlimited prosperity to Agawam without a cost to the city. A no vote will not guarantee that there will be no negative impact on Agawam from casino gambling.

My hope is that each citizen will view the presentations being made by both sides of the issue with some skepticism, do their own research, and make their own decision as to the future direction of Agawam.

Very truly yours,
Robert J. Danie

SEE LETTERS - Page 10...

"A FRIEND AND NEIGHBOR"

JIM TAYLOR

State Representative

No one cares about AGAWAM
like someone who lives in AGAWAM



JIM TAYLOR lives in AGAWAM!

JIM TAYLOR grew up in AGAWAM!

JIM TAYLOR went to AGAWAM
SCHOOLS!

JIM TAYLOR has children in
AGAWAM SCHOOLS!

JIM TAYLOR pays taxes
in AGAWAM!

JIM TAYLOR works in AGAWAM!

Jim Taylor has a vested interest in
Agawam. So do you!

As Agawam Council President, Jim Taylor --

- fought for the acquisition of the Tuckahoe Property to preserve open space.
- supported the acquisition of the profitable Agawam Country Club.
- fought to improve highway safety by the continuation of Phase II of Route 57.

As State Representative from Agawam, Jim Taylor will --

- fight for the timely completion of Route 57 to the town line.
- work to reform a welfare system that currently rewards non-productivity.
- fight to keep repeat criminals behind bars so they can't prey on us again.

-A NAME YOU KNOW AND TRUST.-

ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH,

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LETTERS - from Page 9...

Rosy Picture Painted On Casino Is Simply Not True

To The Editor:

Over the past few weeks, the citizens of Agawam have been inundated with casino gambling information, both pro and con, in all media forms. On such an important issue, it is imperative that we all do our homework and look beyond the rhetoric to find the untainted facts in order to make an informed decision.

There is an old adage about the power of the ballot box. A positive vote on Question 11 will change the Town of Agawam forever, for good or bad, **no one** actually knows, although they try to tell you.

On Tuesday, October 4th, the Citizens for Agawam's Economic Future (a.k.a. Edward Carroll, Jr.) left a four-sided informational flier on my front doorstep. Upon reading it I found some interesting assertions but not many facts, so I decided to spend some time at the Riverside Information Center on Springfield Street.

I was not surprised to find a lack of facts there, also. For example: on page two of the flier, Mr. Carroll claims Riverside provides the area residents with 1,600 jobs. What he didn't mention was that all but approximately 150 of those jobs are part-time, seasonal jobs. Mr. Carroll didn't tell you that nearly 90 percent of those 1,600 people are out of work for almost half a year.

"The whole issue of crime is really a non-issue. Agawam will not see an increase in crime because of this casino." A bold statement from the Citizens for Agawam's Economic Future, but they had no facts to back it up. I asked to see the study supporting their claim, **they had none**. If they had bothered to do research, as I had, they would have found that casinos do cause crime problems. Read it in the March 28, 1994 issue of *Newsweek*. Read it in *Christianity Today*, November 25, 1991. Read it in David Johnston's book, *Temple of Chance*.

The economic issue has been presented as a no-lose situation. Mr. Carroll claims our economy will receive a huge boost. Well, don't go looking for their economic study, **they had none** to show me. They could only ramble on about what they envisioned would happen.

What about that five to seven million dollars annually for the Town of Agawam? Those figures are based on projections only, and will be realized **only** if the appropriate legislation is enacted. To use Mr. Carroll's words, "most of the **pending** legislation."

There is a question about anyone underage being allowed in the casino. Mr. Carroll has stated that no one underage will be allowed in. Well, what is the age? Will that minimum age change as more and more area casinos compete for a limited number of patrons? Do the research. Atlantic City has an abysmal record when it comes to enforcing age limits.

Lastly, I want to touch on a topic that is the most concerning to me. The proliferation of casino gambling in the United States and its effect on our families and our future. We must realize that there is no quick fix to our own or the state's economic troubles. No one wins in a casino. If you did, they wouldn't be able to stay open. It's as simple as that.

We must not allow easy access for our children to the pitfalls of gambling. Local casinos can turn the casual gambler into a problem gambler. "It's not your problem," I am told.

Well, it becomes my problem when these

gambling addicts lose their jobs and stop paying local taxes. It becomes my problem when these gambling addicts stop paying their mortgage and the local banks run into financial trouble.

It becomes my problem when chronic gambling splits families and now my tax dollars go toward supporting broken families in the form of food and shelter assistance. It becomes my problem when the financial hardship brought on by chronic gambling leads the weak to alcoholism and drug addiction and the myriad of social problems those illnesses bring.

It becomes my problem if someone dear to me succumbs to the addiction of gambling and I am racked by the guilt feeling that I did not do enough to keep gambling out of that person's reach.

A rosy picture has been painted for us by the Citizens for Agawam's Economic Future, but they have failed to tell us the entire story or back up their claims with facts. The benefit of the job opportunities would be great but it would not outweigh the proven risks.

VOTE NO ON QUESTION 11.

Stephen Maloney
Arnold Street
Feeding Hills

Time For Agawam Voters To Again Reject Gambling

To The Editor:

For those of you who are not completely familiar with the history of Agawam, I would address both the old time residents and newcomers who think that the gambling fever is new to Agawam. It's not so! Back in the 30's, there were two racetracks in Hampden County where you could "lose your shirt" faster than you could blink an eye.

Our "rural" Agawam had a horse racing track at the site of the old Barnes Airport back in the 1930's. County voters caused its demise. Years later, the site of the tract became known as the best industrial park in the Western Mass. area. WestMass Development Corp., with the cooperation of town officials and the residents of Agawam, had made it so. As we can now see, an industrial park is more advantageous than a gambler's haven.

The other racetrack was for dog racing off Memorial Avenue, West Springfield, which eventually went out of business during a public referendum by Hampden County voters.

The following editorial, published in the November 9, 1938 issue of the *Springfield Daily Republican* tends to show how voters feel and what voters can do. It was titled,

"OUT GOES RACE TRACK GAMBLING"

The public verdict in Hampden County is decisively against the continuation of legalized gambling at the horse and dog race tracks. The issue came to the final test after an experience of four years, and the experience afforded ample opportunity for the people to judge the evil, both from an economic and moral viewpoint.

Gambling is a social and moral evil. The only serious argument arises when it is contended that, as an evil, it is ineradicable and is bound to flourish as an illicit form if it is not licensed and made to contribute a revenue to the state.

That argument was undoubtedly given fair consideration but the defeat of the racetrack interest in the referendum emphasizes the popular conviction that where this form of gambling is highly organized and commercialized, under the management of interest that fatten on it financially, it takes a toll from the community that tends to impoverish it and defame it.

The public decision on this question will hearten all the agencies organized for the moral, educational, and social welfare of the community. Those who have given

time and effort to the campaign against pari-mutual betting have to their credit a public service well done."

The advent of a casino in the area would only contribute to creating a worse situation than in the 1930's. Don't let the scare tactic that we will lose our Riverside Park if the casino idea is defeated affect you. The park has been in business for over 50 years and making a profit. It will continue to do so!

Need I say more? Voters - it's time again!

David C. Gallano
Agawam Historian

Riverside Park Is Great Asset To Life Blood Of Agawam

To The Editor:

I am a 20-year employee of Riverside Park. I started working at Riverside as a high school graduate. The money I earned as a summer employee helped to finance my college education. I found the Park to be a great place to work in a safe, fun environment.

When I graduated from Westfield State College with a degree in Physical Education, there were no jobs in this area (what a surprise!). I was fortunate enough to find a full-time job at Riverside Park. Riverside paid fully for my Master of Business Administration program at Western New England College when I showed an interest in continuing my education. I am a Riverside success story.

Riverside is a great company to work for. It pays its full-time staff very well and has a great benefit program for its staff. Riverside also hires 1,500 to 2,000 seasonal employees each operating season. What a great asset for this community.

Who in this area doesn't know of a young adult or senior citizen who has worked at Riverside? Riverside has positively shaped the economy of this town for generations. What will the impact on your family be if Riverside closed? Where will your children work, how will you finance their education? Think.

Please believe Ed Carroll when he states that the future of Riverside is threatened by unfair competition from Indian casinos. The casino in Ledyard, Connecticut, and the proposed casino in Fall River, Massachusetts, will build multi-million dollar amusement parks. When they open their gates, they will pay no taxes, and they can and most likely will be in a position to charge absolutely nothing to attract people to their amusement facilities.

Meanwhile, Riverside Park will continue to pay taxes and charge for its entertainment. Eventually, this unfair competition will drastically impact our ability to draw visitors to Agawam. We won't go out of business in one season, but we will be forced to downsize and retract. Once on this slippery slope, it is just a matter of time before we will be gone.

For many residents of Agawam, the Park has always been there. It has become a part of the town fabric to the point that people take its success and presence for granted. This is a dangerous thing to do. Look around at the manufacturing base, the retail base, the service base of our region. It too is gone due to unfair competition.

A "Yes" vote on the **non-binding referendum** on November 8th will send a loud signal to the Governor in Boston that Agawam does not want to be forgotten. It means that the citizens will give Ed Carroll and Lady Luck more time to answer your questions and provide the voters with the information they seek. A "Yes" vote is your best bet.

Kate Horner
Director of Marketing & Operations
Riverside Park

SEE LETTERS - Page 12...

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SOME THOUGHTS ON PLANNING AHEAD

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LETTERS - from Page 10 ...

Casino Will Ruin Our Nice Quality Of Life

To The Editor:

To The Residents Of Agawam:

I am writing this letter because I can't take time off from work to hold signs at the rotary or the Agawam bridge. I don't have numerous employees at my disposal to promote my cause, and I certainly don't have a lot of money to hire a public relations firm. This is how I can express my opinions on the proposed casino for Riverside.

The issue to me is not the morality of gambling, it's much more simple than that. It's the quality of life in Agawam. It has been said that the traffic will not be a problem, that the roads are under utilized as they are now.

That is what you heard from all the businesses on Riverdale Road when they were seeking to locate there. Also commuting over the South End Bridge or through Suffield, CT will certainly not improve with the addition of the casino. Not to mention increases in drunken driving from the facility. They do provide alcohol to patrons of casinos (possibly to loosen their wallets?).

The promise of \$5 to \$7 million of revenue to the Town of Agawam sounds more like a campaign promise from a politician. Remember that you don't get something for nothing. These tax dollars will have to be used to support the added strain to the infrastructure brought on by the casino and its effects. That is the whole reason residents and businesses pay taxes.

Another campaign promise is more jobs. More jobs can be created in other ways. Fill the Industrial Park with low impact businesses. Businesses that will provide a wide range of jobs, and support the local economy by keeping the profits in Western Mass. to be reinvested.

Lastly, several people I know who don't live as close to the park as I do have said they don't care what the outcome is because it won't affect them; Riverside is all the way on the other side of town. Well, the reasons people down this end of town feel the way they do are the same reasons the Tuckahoe Turf Farm was bought, the same reason the Agawam Country Club was bought; to control the growth of the town and try to retain its character.

The residents of the other parts of town are encouraged to take a drive through the neighborhoods at this end of town. You will find it just like yours, houses that are paid for by hard work, kids playing in the streets, and a quiet place to live.

And on voting day, remember that you probably wouldn't want a casino located a half-mile from your street.

David Hallock
22 Trinity Ter.

AHS Cheerleaders Seek Donations For London Trip

To The Editor:

To The People Of Agawam:

On the day after Christmas, we will have an opportunity of a lifetime! We (Kris, Kara, and Rosi) are all senior members of the Agawam High School varsity cheerleading squad.

This awesome chance will enable us to spend a week in London, representing our town and participating in "The Lord Mayor of Westminster's New Year's Day Parade" for the Queen of England.

Please understand that this opportunity was not given to us. We attend Brant Lake Camp located in New York, which is sponsored by the Universal Cheerleaders Association (UCA) every summer as a squad to learn new safety techniques, stunts, dances, and cheers.

This summer, we had the opportunity to compete for the honor of being chosen a "UCA All Star." This contest was held in summer camps throughout the country and UCA's top cheerleaders were chosen to participate in national and international parades.

This year, more than 1,400 All Star cheerleaders will make the trip to England with UCA to perform in this parade in London. We worked very hard and were ecstatic to be winners. However, our enthusiasm took a slight dive when we looked at the cost of this trip. We must raise \$1,900 each in order to reach London! This will include airfare, hotel, special uniforms, etc.

We are now formulating our plans and would like to ask for a donation towards our expenses to enable us to participate in this special event. We are very excited for the opportunity to represent our home town of Agawam and our squad.

The fact that three of us were chosen from the AHS squad makes it "triple the tribute" because we work as a team all year 'round, and we were, therefore, able to shine as individuals.

If you would like to help us, you may send your

contribution to Park West Bank & Trust Co., P.O. Box 149, West Springfield, MA 01090-0149, Attn: Rita Comtois, All Star Account.

Your contribution will, of course, be acknowledged publicly/privately.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read this.

Sincerely,
Kara Murphy
Kristine Grych
Rosi van Hollander

Agawam Cannot Afford Having A Casino At Park

To The Editor:

After listening to the presentations of Mr. Ed Carroll to the special committee in Agawam and during the recently televised debate, I am more convinced than ever that we cannot afford to have casino gambling in this area, and especially in our city.

The weak presentation by Mr. Carroll left no doubt in my mind that all he is interested in is establishing a gambling casino for his own benefit. He claims that he has the citizens' best interests at heart, but it appears that he is only "the local guy" who will be controlled by Lady Luck, which is putting up the money for this ludicrous proposal.

Mr. Carroll's claims that "Riverside will close ... we will not harm the environment ... we will control the location ... the roadways can handle the traffic ... and it will not create traffic problems for the Town of Agawam" were presented **without any shred of documentation** except a self-serving study of traffic by a firm hired by the proponents of gambling.

Worse yet, to my knowledge, the committee appointed by Mayor Johnson has not sought from disinterested third parties any comparative studies of before and after effects in areas where Lady Luck operates gambling facilities. To properly fulfill its obligation, the committee must ask hard questions, pro and con, and demand complete documented responses.

Mr. Carroll never complained about competition when he billed Riverside as the "largest amusement park in New England." Now that he

will face real competition, he wants to take the easy way out at the expense of our city and citizens.

As a resident, property owner, taxpayer, and voter, I ask all to join with me and vote NO on gambling on November 8th. Vote NO on Question 11.

Sincerely,
Francis J. Campbell, Jr.
Agawam

Dissension Created Over Senior Center Pool Tables

To The Editor:

For many years, women have been allowed to use the pool tables at the Agawam Senior Center every Tuesday afternoon, exclusively.

Men were not allowed to use even those tables which were not in play, and if any of them tried, they were told to leave.

About two years ago, a group of women asked to join the "Agawam Men's Pool Club" (a group responsible for keeping the tables and equipment in good shape). They were readily admitted and at the yearly dinner were even seated at a reserved table. Later, one of the men suggested playing in couples, for diversity, but the ladies never accepted the offer.

The ladies have been allowed to use the tables any time they want except when a tournament is in progress, generally Wednesday afternoon.

Many a morning and most of the afternoons there are tables open for them to play on and if they don't want to because some men tease them, then they should take it up with those individuals and not condemn all men pool players. I've never heard any of the remarks.

We have one of the nicest Senior Centers in the state and it's a shame to see someone trying to create dissension here.

A pool player,
Ted Dynia
468 Springfield Street
Agawam

SEE LETTERS - Page 13...

PARTNERS

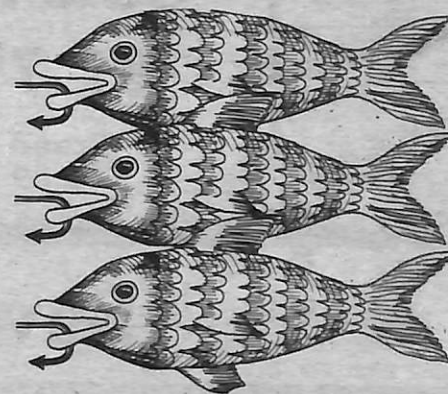
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LETTERS - from Page 12...

Being A Gun Lobbyist Only Protects Our Rights**To The Editor:**

Attorney Dan Keenan's paid political advertisement in the October 20th edition of "The Agawam Advertiser News" was a real "eye opener."

Apparently his opponent for State Representative, Agawam Town Council President Jim Taylor, supports the "Right of the People to KEEP AND BEAR ARMS" (that's the Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States). And Mr. Keenan is upset that Mr. Taylor is a lobbyist, and a paid one at that.

Evidently, Mr. Keenan is either unaware of—or unsympathetic to—the fact that many law-abiding firearms owners in this district believe that their basic right as described in the Second Amendment is in danger of being lost. Mr. Taylor has lobbied in Boston to help preserve those rights.

I'm sure there are expenses involved in performing this service, and I'm also certain that those expenses could be well over the amount described in Mr. Keenan's advertisement. I KNOW how Jim Taylor feels about my rights and those of other law-abiding citizens. And that's just one reason why I'll be voting for him in November.

Steven L. Paul
Feeding Hills

Casino Operations Will Surely Lure You In (To Lose)!**To The Editor:**

Those one armed bandits are fun, Even though we ought to run. Run away from them would be the thing to do, But they're like a magnet drawing them to you. You hear the clinking of coins falling in the tray, It makes you want to stay-stay-stay. You just can't get away,

Until the last coin is picked up and fed into the slot,
You keep thinking of all the money you could have got.
Should I change another bill and start over again?
That's when you're strong and say, "So Long."
It didn't take very long to part with one hundred dollars between the two,
In a half hour's time, that's not so hard to do.
Now may I add to this rhyme,
How our hearts went out to a wheelchair-bound young man
at the credit office with phone in hand trying desperately
to stay - in order to play.
While there, we didn't see any foxes in the woods,
Only inside where the "DENS" were wide open,
Just to "LURE" you in
And take it on the Chin!

Need I say more?
Louise Dyl
Agawam

Negative Letter-Writing An Insult To All Voters

How unfortunate that once again a political campaign insults the local voters with contrived tactics in an effort to cloud the issues and created distorted facts.

How often we express the desire to see good, capable people come forward to run for elective offices. It requires much time, energy, sacrifice, and expense to undertake a campaign; and most important, it requires a very sincere desire and a devotion to serve one's community, state, and country.

It is an insult to the voters when a candidate or his committee think they must resort to negative letter-writing and negative political advertisements in an effort to besmirch their opponent.

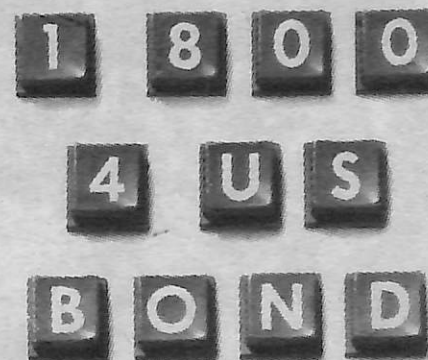
How pathetic it is that the candidate from Blandford or his committee cannot conduct their campaign without dropping to this level—certainly unworthy behavior of one who seeks to represent the citizens of Agawam!

How can we encourage and hope to find good women and men to expose themselves and their families to this kind of disrespect when they undertake to run for public office? It, however, frequently proves demeaning and most revealing of the character of the "mud-slingers" than to the target of their attacks.

Let's have respect for all candidates and let's try to restore dignity to our great elective process.

Sincerely,
Ellie Richards
Agawam

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Riverside Employees Rally For Ed Carroll, Jr.



RIVERSIDE PARK EMPLOYEES rallied to support their boss, park owner and operator Edward J. Carroll, Jr., in his attempt to bring a casino/entertainment complex to the park. RELATED STORY ON PAGES 1 & 15. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



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RIVERSIDE - from Page 1...

Turning Every Positive Into A Negative

Freeman said opponents of casino gambling are looking for any negative thing they can find, turning every positive point in Carroll's proposal into a negative.

Rather than take Carroll's promise to establish a \$1 million fund to deal with any unforeseen problems that might surface as a result of a casino at the park as a good faith gesture, opponents turned it into an admission that problems will crop up, Freeman said.

Freeman also objected to the opposition's use of statistics to imply that bringing a casino to Agawam will mean 100,000 felons will be running around town. "That's the most ridiculous thing I've ever heard," Freeman said.

Freeman further stated that a letter from the mayor of Bay St. Louis, Mississippi (where a casino/riverboat has been operating for nearly two years) makes no mention of increased crime and suicide, but refers to an 85 percent reduction in property taxes.

Freeman said Governor William Weld's agreement with the Wampanoags requires a theme park to be built within two years of the casino (if the legislature approves the plan to bring casino gambling to New Bedford and to Hampden County).

"They will be in direct competition to us. We don't want to be another Steigers or Buxtons," Freeman said.

Melconian Concerned About Rising Tide Of Gang Violence

In recent months, gang violence has repeatedly spilled from the streets into the halls of courthouses throughout Massachusetts.

The problem is particularly urgent in Hampden County, where gang skirmishes have proliferated at a fevered pitch. In response to the latest wave of gang-related incidents, Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) announced plans to introduce legislation that will protect the safety of the general public and court officers and employees.

Senator Melconian met recently with Hampden County District Attorney William Bennett and Assistant District Attorney Howard Safford to discuss the outbreak of violence in courthouses.

"The situation has reached crisis proportions. Our courthouses have become a war zone. Conflicts have erupted because members of rival gangs are loitering in the halls of the courthouse. Gang members are often armed, which means that the level of violence can escalate rapidly once a skirmish breaks out," said Melconian.

Senator Melconian is working with the Hampden County District Attorney's office to get legislation enacted that would: (1) increase the penalties for violent crimes and property crimes committed in or around the general vicinity of a courthouse, and (2) empower the District Attorney to authorize the removal of people who jeopardize the safety and security of the general public or court officers and employees.

"The problem is exacerbated in courthouses such as the Hampden County Hall of Justice which houses criminal courts under the same roof as superior courts, district courts, the register of deeds, and the clerk of the probate court," according to Senator Melconian.

"It is intolerable that innocent lives are being put at risk. The bills I am introducing will restore calm and order to the halls of justice."

The presence of gangs brawling in courtroom corridors has created a backlog of cases in Springfield District Court. Cases are postponed because there is a lack of sufficient number of court officers.

When court officers are called away to break up fights, the courtrooms are left unprotected. Senator Melconian's proposed legislation gives the District Attorney the firepower to douse the flames of gang violence in the courthouse.

"Court officers cannot be expected to stand alone on the front lines," said Melconian. "The District Attorney should have the authority to call in reinforcements when an emergency exists. Court officers must not be forced to leave their post to quell violence in and around the courthouse when their primary duty is to protect the courtroom."

"I sponsored and pushed through a law that created duty-free school zones to attack the scourge of drugs. It is now time to create violence-free courthouse zones," concluded Melconian.

For all the local news, you turn our pages every week



MAIN STREET RESIDENTS Frank & Helen Crupeczak, who live across the street from Riverside Park, rallied with park employees last Saturday in support of owner and operator Edward J. Carroll, Jr. Advertiser News

photo by Jack Devine.

Deadline Here For Real Estate Bills


The first-half real estate tax bills for fiscal year 1995 are **payable in full** by the close of business next Tuesday, November 1, 1994. Payments not received by the due date will accrue interest at the rate of 14 percent on the amount of the payment that is unpaid and overdue.

Interest is computed on overdue first-half real estate tax payments from October 1, 1994 to the date payment is received by the Collector.


Taxpayers should allow sufficient time for the United States Postal Service to process the mail if payments are made by mail. Payments must be postmarked by October 31, 1994. If you have any questions regarding payments, please contact the Collector's Office at 786-0400, extension 218. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

In addition, Massachusetts state law requires taxpayers to pay the bill whether it is received or not. Anyone who has not received their real estate tax bill should contact the Collector's Office immediately. The telephone number is 786-0400, extension 218.

Birthday Card ads are \$25 with picture; our deadline is Tuesday at noon. Thanks.

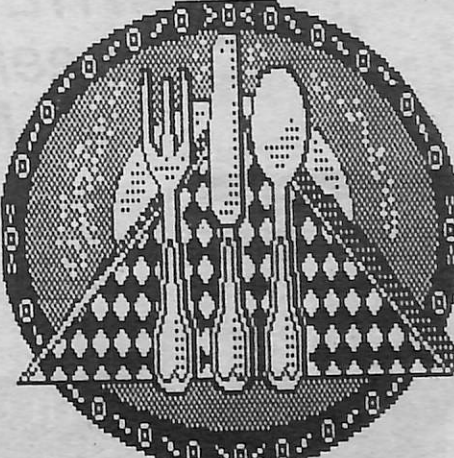


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Agawam Lions Den
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Explosion Rips Thru Apts; Two Badly Burned

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Fire investigators still don't know what touched off the explosion and fire at the Carriage House Apartments on Springfield Street in Feeding Hills last Thursday (October 20th).

The fire remains under investigation by the state fire marshal's office and the Agawam Fire and Police Departments.

Fire Chief David Pisano said no gas leaks have been found, and the cause of the fire has not been determined.

Injured in the explosion and fire in his second-floor apartment was David Mann. He was airlifted to Brigham and Women's Hospital burn center in Boston with burns covering 50 percent of his body.

Also injured in the blast was James Bertier, the rental agent and maintenance man for the complex. Bertier, who had been working in the bathroom of the apartment at the time of the blast, was hospitalized at Baystate Medical Center with burns on 13 percent of his body.

Firefighter Michael Mercadante was treated for a knee injury sustained while helping Mann down the stairs and later released from Baystate Medical Center.

Trooper Michael Mazza of the Fire Marshall's Office is heading up the investigation and will be calling in experts to aid in searching for the cause of the incident.

Unfit For Occupancy

The 16-unit building has been declared unfit for occupancy by the town's building inspector, and the tenants have been relocated with the help of family, friends, and the American Red Cross. The building will remain closed until a cause is found.

In addition to the damage in Mann's apartment, the blast blew down the ceiling in the adjacent apartment and caused structural damage in hallways and the stairwell.

Deputy Fire Chief Steven Martin said firefighters arrived on the scene within one minute of receiving the call to find smoke and flames coming out of the window, and had the fire under control in minutes.

Patrolmen Steven Draghetti and firefighter Randy Cushing (both of whom are paramedics) began advanced emergency treatment procedures on the injured men at the scene, and continued treatment as the men were transported to Baystate Medical Center in the town ambulance.

Martin said he was told by Mann's mother that his injuries were not life-threatening, and her son would be undergoing skin grafts.



AGAWAM FIREFIGHTERS on the second floor of the Carriage House Apartments; inside, the living room of one of the units was completely ripped apart by an explosion. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



NO ONE covers the local news each week like Kathy Cassanelli, news editor!!!

THE AAN is already filling up fast for next week's edition. Please, bring in your copy on Monday. We open at 6:30 a.m.

We are pleased to announce that

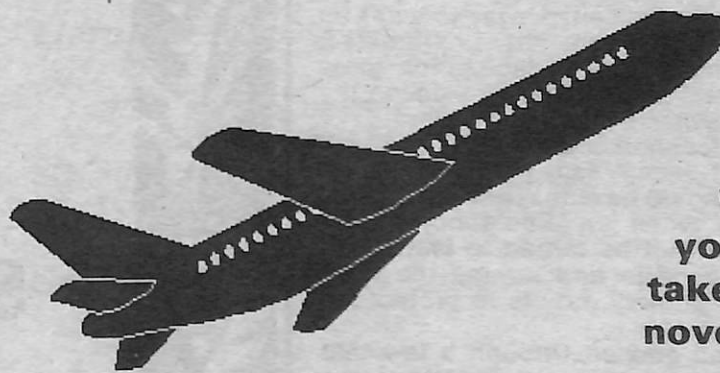
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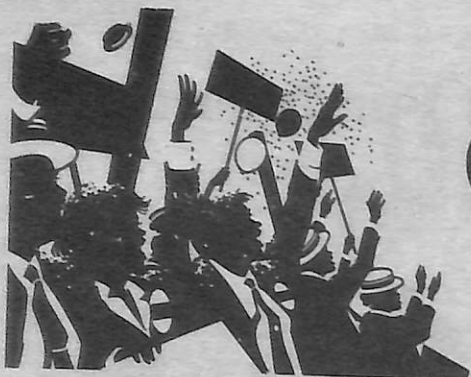


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Campaign '94

Walsh-Melconian Hold Fundraiser For Keenan

Keenan Supports Death Penalty For Killing Police Officers

Dan Keenan, candidate for State Representative for the Third Hampden District, has stated that he supports a proposal which would call for the death penalty for those who kill public safety officials.

The bill, sponsored by Representative Steven Tobin of Quincy, was filed after State Trooper Mark Charbonnier was shot and killed in the line of duty on September 2, 1994. It calls for the establishment of the death penalty in Massachusetts for any person convicted of killing public safety personnel.

Keenan stated, "When a police officer is murdered in the line of duty, it is a direct assault on the fabric of our society. We have to draw a clear line that says if you take the life of a guardian of our society, then you will pay that price with your own."

Keenan also said if the bill is not passed before the end of this year, as State Representative he will push strongly for the bill's passage.

Keenan concluded, "The murder of dedicated officers and fine public servants like Trooper Charbonnier is unacceptable, and our criminal justice laws must reflect that."



STATE REP. MICHAEL P. WALSH and STATE SENATOR LINDA J. MELCONIAN held a fundraiser to support the candidacy of Daniel F. Keenan for state representative. The event was held at Alexander's Restaurant. From left - Ronald Hebert, Ralph Liptak, Senator Melconian, Daniel Keenan, Noreen Poole, Joanne Willis, and Rep. Walsh. MORE PHOTOS ON NEXT PAGE. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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Campaign '94 - continued...

Rep. Neal Receives Endorsement From Law Enforcement

The nation's largest coalition of Law Enforcement Officers and crime victims, The Law Enforcement Alliance of America, has endorsed John Briare for the United States Congress over incumbent Congressman Richard E. Neal of Springfield.

The association cited Briare's uncompromising support of the following items as reason for their endorsement.

- * Increased penalties for violent crime
- * Mandatory sentencing and the death penalty
- * Anti-stalking statutes
- * Sexual assault prevention for potential victims

- * Elimination of parole on violent and sexual offenses
- * Mandatory boot camps for non-violent juvenile offenders

- * Support for a victim's rights bill
- * Strong support of the National Child Protection Act.

Briare stated, "I take the endorsement of the Law Enforcement Alliance of America very seriously. After all, these are the men and women who are risking their lives everyday fighting this awful battle on crime. When Congress creates bad legislation, like the Crime Bill, it is this group of dedicated servants whose lives are on the line."

Briare continued, "I think most people now agree that trying to rehabilitate the habitual violent offenders is a waste of time and money. Our country needs to focus on punishment rather than rehabilitation."

"We need to put real teeth in the law and assure swift and certain application of its justice. Juveniles should not be able to break the law and be back on the street before the police can even finish the paperwork."

Briare continued, "Where there is no respect for the law, there is no obedience to the law! That must change."

"This endorsement from the 'rank & file' police officers and not their political bosses, should give comfort to the voters in the district," Briare said. "After all, it's the rank and file officers who are on the front lines ... who would know better than they."

Mass. Teachers Say Neal Best Man For Congressional Seat

The Massachusetts Federation of Teachers (MFT), which has over 15,000 members statewide, has officially endorsed Second District Congressman Richard E. Neal's candidacy for reelection to the United States House of Representatives.

In a statement released recently, the MFT's Executive Board cited Neal's commitment to education as the primary basis of their support.

"Having reviewed your record in Congress on education issues and issues that affect the quality of life for workers and all the citizens of Massachusetts, we believe your election this fall will enable all of us to continue working to implement programs essential to our goals," said Kathleen Kelley, President of the MFT.

"During the 103rd Congress, I consistently voted for legislation designed to enhance our education system. My support of H.R. 6 and the Goals 2000 program will significantly reform elementary and secondary education. As a former teacher, I am convinced that these initiatives will result in improved student performance," Neal said.

From 1975 to 1983, Congressman Neal was a teacher in the City of Springfield.

Taylor Committee Plan Meeting For Fri., Oct. 28th

The Taylor Committee to elect James D. Taylor State Representative will meet October 28th at 7:30 p.m. at 707 River Road in Agawam.

We encourage all our campaign workers to attend this meeting to work on a special project.

If you want to help Jim Taylor become the next state representative from the Third Hampden District, please stop by Friday night. The Taylor Committee can be reached at 786-0300.

Coffee and refreshments will be served.

Officials Gather For Keenan Fundraiser



STATE REP. MICHAEL P. WALSH and STATE SENATOR LINDA J. MELCONIAN held a fundraiser to support the candidacy of Daniel F. Keenan for state rep. on Tuesday, October 11th, at Alexander's Restaurant. In top photo, from left - Jill Keenan (Dan's wife), Doug Bodman, Thomas Moriarty (register of probate), Dan Keenan, John Keenan, and Shay Keenan. PHOTO BELOW - Mike Molta, Karen Molta, Dan Keenan, Cathy Sheehan, and Anthony Frasco. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



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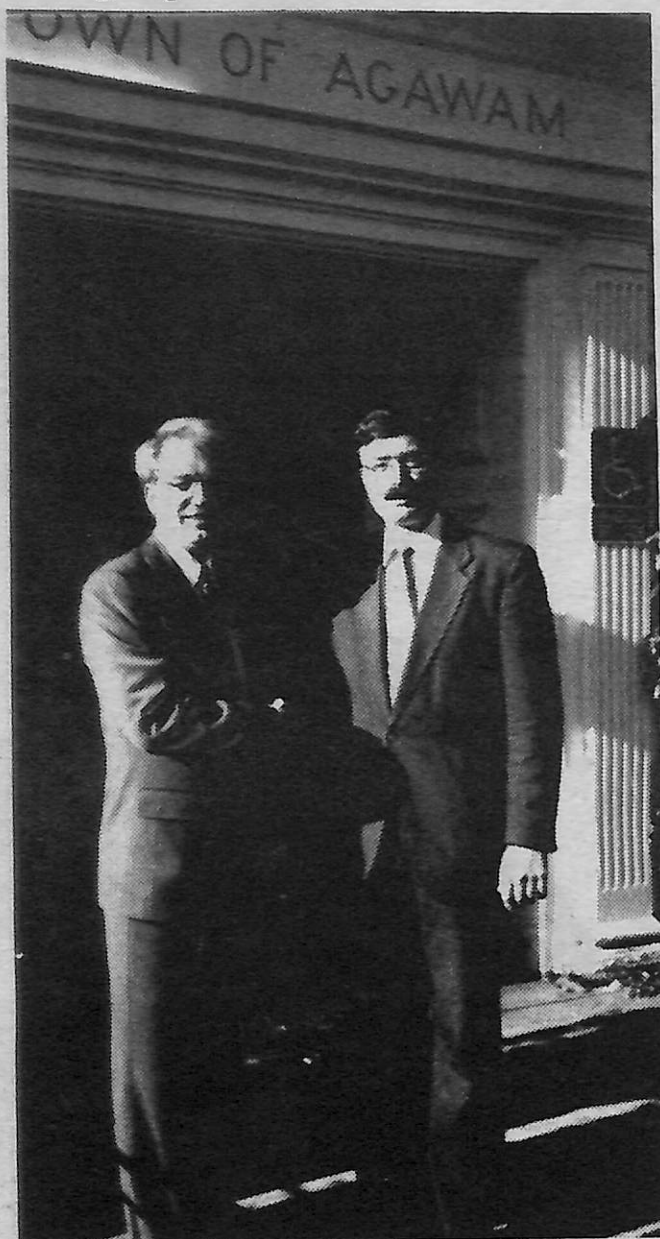
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Campaign '94 - continued...



MAYOR CHRISTOPHER C. JOHNSON (left) has endorsed the candidacy of Town Council President **JAMES D. TAYLOR** for state rep. in the Third Hampden District.

Mayor Johnson Offers Endorsement To GOP Candidate Taylor

Mayor Christopher C. Johnson announced his endorsement of James D. Taylor for State Representative in the Third Hampden District.

Johnson said, "Jim has the right combination of experience and integrity to represent the people of Agawam and the district in the House of Representatives. Jim has proven his leadership skills as President of the Agawam Town Council by forging a coalition to gain passage of legislation allowing the town to acquire Tuckahoe Turf Farm and the Agawam Country Club, as well as to construct a new fire headquarters."

Johnson went on to commend Taylor for his strong roots in Agawam and his dedication to the community. Johnson said, "Jim has served Agawam as an auxiliary police officer, a call firefighter, and a town councilor. He has also been active in the public schools and in many community groups. Jim cares about Agawam and he will bring his vast knowledge of our community to his work in the State House."

Johnson also stressed Taylor's knowledge of the issues which face our next State Representative. He said, "Jim has a thorough understanding of the Route 57 expansion project and of the issue of casino gambling. Jim is a lifelong resident of Agawam and we need his dedication and knowledge to see the timely completion of Route 57."

Johnson closed by saying, "It would be a mistake for Agawam to lose the State Representative's seat. Many issues affect Agawam differently than the other communities of the Third Hampden District."

"All the residents of Agawam should unite to maintain the only local representation we have in the State House. Jim Taylor has worked hard for the citizens of Agawam as a town councilor and we need that work ethic from our next State Representative."

best local news

Firefighters Offer Endorsement To Neal Candidacy

Second District Congressman Richard E. Neal has received the endorsement of both the Professional Firefighters of Massachusetts and the Springfield Association of Firefighters in his campaign for re-election to the United States House of Representatives. The two organizations represent over 12,000 firefighters statewide.

"For many years, Congressman Neal has supported those issues which have meant so much to the firefighters of our nation. This year alone, he is serving as a co-sponsor and advocate for the Firefighters Pay Fairness Act. This legislation, when signed into law, will improve the working conditions and quality of life for every firefighter in the United States," said Robert B. McCarthy, President of the Professional Firefighters of Massachusetts.

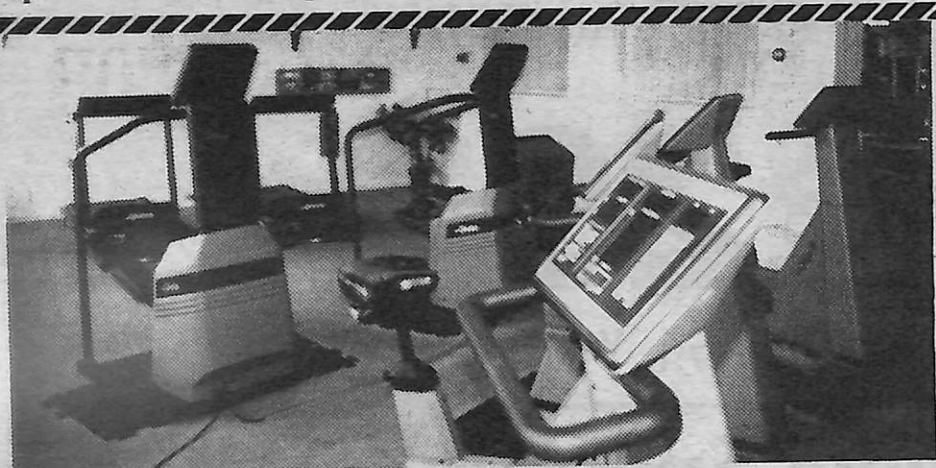
"Firefighters not only in your district but throughout the state know that you have great concern for firefighters and their families," said Darrell W. Rollins, President of Local 648.

Congressman Neal is a member of the House Ways and Means Committee and is seeking his fourth term in Congress.

Agawam Republicans To Meet Nov. 5th

The Agawam Republican City Committee will hold their next meeting on November 5th at 9:00 a.m. at the Oak Ridge Country Club in Feeding Hills.

Chris Quatrone, chairman, asked that all members and associate members attend this meeting. Plans for the upcoming election will be finalized.



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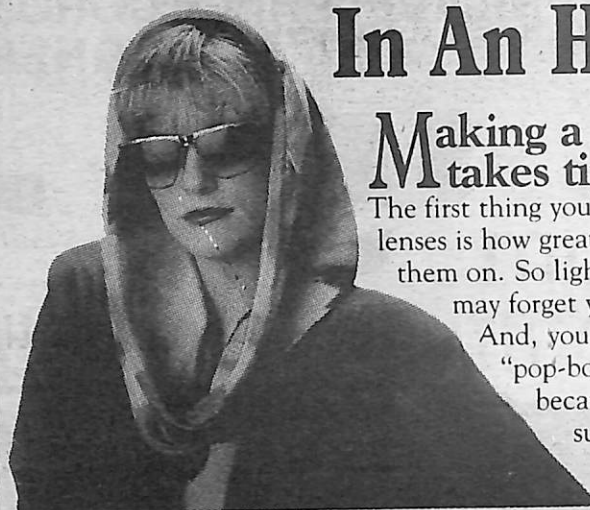


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Campaign '94 - continued...

Republicans Gather For Taylor Candidacy



AREA REPUBLICANS and supporters gathered at Alexander's Restaurant on October 19th to boost the candidacy of James D. Taylor for state rep. From left - Larry Hoague, James Gregor, Doug Gregor, James D. Taylor, Cindy Sanford (Taylor's wife), Robert McGovern, Cele Hahn (GOP candidate for Westfield rep. seat), and David St. Pierre (Southwick selectman). Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



GREETING PEOPLE AT THE DOOR for an October 19th fundraiser is State Rep. candidate James D. Taylor and campaign supporters. Standing - Taylor, Mary Jane Augusti, and Donald Taylor (father). Seated - Jessie D. Fuller and William Taylor (brother). Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Candidate's Debate Scheduled Nov. 3rd By Council On Aging

The Agawam Council on Aging will host a debate between the candidates for state representative in the Third Hampden District, Republican James Taylor and Democrat Daniel Keenan.

The debate will take place at the Agawam Senior Center on Thursday, November 3rd at 4:00 p.m.

Peter Forastiere, chairman of the Council on Aging, will moderate the discussion and questions will come from a panel after opening remarks. The public is invited as all issues in the campaign will be examined.

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Campaign '94 - continued...



MASSACHUSETTS GOVERNOR WILLIAM WELD appeared at a fundraiser for State Rep. candidate James D. Taylor on Wednesday, October 19th, at Alexander's Restaurant. **IN PHOTO LEFT** - Gov. Weld, James D. Taylor, State Senator Brian Lees (R-East Longmeadow), and Mayor Christopher C. Johnson. **IN PHOTO RIGHT** - Gov. Weld chats with Taylor about the 1994 campaign. **RELATED PHOTOS ON PREVIOUS PAGE.** Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Gov. Weld Appears In Town For Taylor

Governor William Weld gave a huge boost to the campaign of Agawam Town Council President James D. Taylor at an October 19th reception in Taylor's honor. Taylor is seeking election as the State Representative from the district that serves Agawam, Southwick, Granville, Tolland, Blandford, and Russell.

Weld acknowledged Taylor as an "independent thinker who will do what is best for the people of the district." Weld also recognized Taylor's leadership abilities as council president and as a former law officer.

Mayor Christopher C. Johnson said, "It would

be a mistake for Agawam to lose this seat," in reference to the state representative having been from Agawam for over 30 years. "The casino is proposed for Agawam, not Blandford, and Route 57 is going through Agawam, not Blandford," said Johnson. The casino question and the completion of Route 57 are major issues facing Agawam, which contains 80 percent of the district's population.

Taylor said his opponent wants the government

to create jobs. "The only way the government can create jobs," said Taylor, "is to give people government jobs. That's what put Massachusetts on the brink of bankruptcy in the late 80's," declared Taylor.

"We must make Massachusetts fertile ground where start-up businesses can flourish," said Taylor. "High taxes and over regulation drive business to other states or regions of the country, taking valuable jobs with them."

Best local news with us

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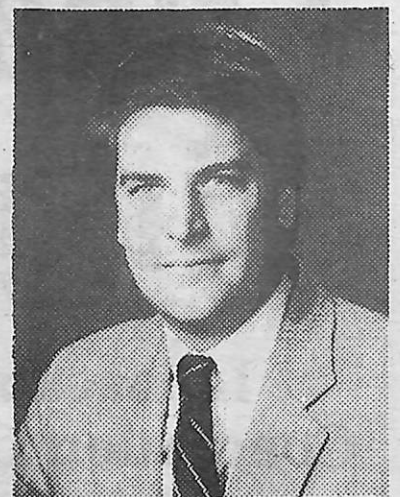
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Families

Speaker Flaherty Among Huge Crowd For Walsh



FEEDING HILLS RESIDENT Edward Plante chats with State Rep. Michael P. Walsh at testimonial in Walsh's honor on Thursday, October 20th, at Chez Josef. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Friends Of Senior Ctr. Give Friendship Award To Barbara Gingras

The Friends of the Agawam Senior Center are pleased to announce this year's recipient of their annual Friendship Award. Barbara Gingras, a Friends member and active community volunteer, will be presented with the award Friday, November 4th at the Annual Friends of the Agawam Senior Center/Agawam Council on Aging Dinner.

Mrs. Gingras has worked tirelessly on behalf of Friends and helps serve refreshments at Saturday night BINGO at the Senior Center. She also serves as treasurer of the St. John's Over-60 Club and teaches a knitting class at the Senior Center. Known as an expert knitter, Mrs. Gingras' talent and expertise are sought by fellow knitters to help bring their projects to completion.

In addition to the Friendship Award presentation, Judy Zukowski of the Senior Center staff will be awarded the Employee of the Year Award. She is part of the cooking team in the Senior Center kitchen, which is noted for its delicious and nutritious meals available daily to seniors.

Tickets for the dinner are still available and may be obtained from Friends board members, COA members, and at the Agawam Senior Center.

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PROMINENT AREA DEMOCRATS who attended the testimonial dinner for State Rep. Michael P. Walsh included, from left - U.S. Congressman Richard Neal (D-Springfield), State Rep. Paul Caron (D-Springfield), Rep. Walsh, and Hampden County Sheriff Michael Ashe. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE CHARLES FLAHERTY (D-Cambridge) served as master of ceremonies for the testimonial dinner for outgoing State Rep. Michael P. Walsh on Thursday, October 20th, at Chez Josef. From left - Rep. Paul Caron (D-Springfield), Speaker Flaherty, Rep. Walsh, and State Senator Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield). Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Are you making one of the 5 common diet mistakes?

The job of losing weight can be made easier, if you avoid the 5 common diet mistakes that may actually lead to weight gain in the long run. Take a simple test to determine what weight loss approach will help you kiss those pounds goodbye! Then, registered dietitian, Nancy Dell, will work with you individually to custom-fit your eating plan to your lifestyle. You'll learn how you can enjoy your favorite foods and still lose weight.



Call NewsCenter 22's nutritionist, Nancy Dell, MS, RD for an appointment at 413-786-2957.

Veteran's Day To Be Observed In Town With Many Activities

The Agawam Veterans' Council is announcing the following schedule of events for the upcoming Veteran's Day celebration.

On Saturday, November 5th at 9:00 a.m., the Council, along with members of the American Legion Post 185 and their auxiliary members, will be replacing veterans' grave flags that have become tattered.

Anyone wanting to help us, please be at the Agawam Center Cemetery or the Springfield Cemetery at 9:00 a.m.

Services will be held at St. David's Church on Springfield Street on Sunday, November 6th at 10:00 a.m. Residents are invited to join with us as we honor our veterans through prayer and remembrance. The American Legion Honor Guard will post the colors.

On Friday, November 11th, a ceremony will be held at the gazebo on the Veterans' Green near Phelps School. All Agawam churches have been requested to toll their church bells 11 times at 11:00 a.m. on Veterans Day.

The program will include an invocation by Reverend Leonard Cowan of St. David's Church, a raising of the flag, placement of the memorial wreath, taps, and firing squad provided by American Legion Post 185.

Guest speaker will be Mr. George Schlagel, a highly decorated war veteran and member of the Agawam World War II 50th Anniversary Commemorative Community Committee. Mr. Schlagel will give a brief talk on the World War II Battle of the Bulge, the largest battle ever fought by the United States military. The 50th anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge will take place on December 16, 1994.

All residents, veterans, and their families are cordially invited to join with us in honoring those who sacrificed so much for the freedom we enjoy.

F.H. Women's Club To Meet Nov. 2nd

The November meeting of the Feeding Hills Women's Club will be held on Wednesday evening, November 2nd, at 7:30 p.m. at the Grange Hall, North West Street, Feeding Hills. The club is in its 68th year. New members and guests are cordially invited.

Alice Smith will present a program about Victorian Christmas ornaments. Avon books will be available for members for the annual sale to benefit the two scholarships given annually to Agawam High School graduates.

All members are urged to attend and to participate in the sale. Refreshments will be served by Jennie Juzba and her committee.

Agawam Mt. Greylock Society Meets



THE MOUNT GREYLOCK SOCIETY OF AGAWAM gathered once again on Columbus Day for its annual hike up Mt. Greylock in Adams. Most of the group is pictured outside of the Historic Williamsburg Inn before dinner. From left - Lisa Gallerani, Jim Reveruzzi, Tara Brittain, Brenton Reveruzzi, Nicole Brittain, Marcel Blais, Pat Reveruzzi, Sara DeKeersmaecker (AFS student from Belgium), Ric Sardella, Gail Brittain, Anna Uimonen (AFS Finland), Peter Brittain, Bahar Tascioglu (AFS Turkey), Chase Sardella, Christina Hoguet Llobet (AFS Spain), Kaitlin Sardella, Pat Asta-Ferrero, and Mary Angela Garcia (AFS Ecuador).

Laughing Brook Being Transformed Into Haunted Forest For Halloween

At sundown this Halloween weekend, Laughing Brook will be transformed into a Haunted Forest. Session I will be held Friday, October 28th, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Session II is scheduled for Saturday, October 29th, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Some of our favorite ghouls and goblins will be returning for this hallowed event, but meet some new residents, too. Join these friendly spooks for an hour-long guided walk to learn about some of the creatures that inhabit the forest, and the myths and traditions that surround the spookiest

of holidays.

Afterward, come in to warm the body and soul with tasty holiday treats. The program is designed for youngsters ages five through 12 in the company of an adult. Costumes are encouraged, but dress warmly as most of the program takes place outside.

Pre-register early for this popular program. The fee for this program is MAS \$4, and \$5 for the public. For more information, please call Laughing Brook at (413) 566-8034.

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Use These Rules For Your Kids On Halloween Night

A few safety tips from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission can protect children who plan to go trick-or-treating this Halloween.

Treats: Warn children not to eat any treats before an adult has carefully examined them for evidence of tampering.

Flame Resistant Costumes: When purchasing a costume, masks, beards, and wigs, look for the label *Flame Resistant*. Although this label does not mean these items won't catch fire, it does indicate the items will resist burning and should extinguish quickly once removed from the ignition source.

To minimize the risk of contact with candles or other sources of ignition, avoid costumes made with flimsy materials and outfits with big, baggy sleeves or billowing skirts.

Costume Designs: Purchase or make costumes that are light and bright enough to be clearly visible to motorists.

- For greater visibility during dusk and darkness, decorate or trim costumes with reflective tape that will glow in the beam of a car's headlights. Bags or sacks should also be light colored or decorated with reflective tape. Reflective tape is usually available in hardware, bicycle, and sporting goods stores.

- To easily see and be seen, children should also carry flashlights.

Costumes should be short enough to prevent children from tripping and falling.

- Children should wear well-fitting, sturdy shoes. Mother's high heels are not a good idea for safe walking.

- Hats and scarfs should be tied securely to prevent them from slipping over children's eyes.

- Apply a natural mask of cosmetics rather than have a child wear a loose-fitting mask that might restrict breathing or obscure vision. If a mask is used, however, make sure it fits securely and has eyeholes large enough to allow full vision.

- Swords, knives, and similar costume accessories should be of soft and flexible material.

Pedestrian Safety: Young children should always be accompanied by an adult or an older, responsible child. All children should WALK, not run from house to house and use the sidewalk, if available, rather than walk in the street. Children should be cautioned against running out from between parked cars, or across lawns and yards where ornaments, furniture, or clotheslines present dangers.

Choosing Safe Houses: Children should go only to homes where the residents are known and have outside lights on as a sign of welcome.

- Children should not enter homes or apartments unless they are accompanied by an adult.

- People expecting trick-or-treaters should remove anything that could be an obstacle from lawns, steps, and porches. Candlelit jack-o'-lanterns should be kept away from landings and doorsteps where costumes could brush against the flame. Indoor jack-o'-lanterns should be kept away from curtains, decorations, and other furnishings that could be ignited.

For further information on product safety, consumers may call the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's toll-free hotline at (800) 638-2772.

Hearing impaired consumers may use TTY (800) 638-8270.

Ghosts & Ghouls Can Be Found At Haunted New England

The ghosts and ghouls of yesteryear can be found at "Haunted Old New England," in Storowton Village Museum's Meeting House, October 28th at 7:00 p.m. on the grounds of Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield.

Authentic New England tales of the 18th and 19th centuries will be featured at this festive, family event. Storyteller and musician, Damon Cook of Worcester will spin tantalizing tales of yesteryore as he strums his guitar, conjuring up visions of witches, ghosts, pirates, and other frightful fiends. Suspense will fill the air during spooky storytelling told by candlelight in the historic church.

Visitors are invited to wear Halloween costumes and join in the spirit of the season. A festively decorated peddler's cart will be on hand, offering Halloween candy and decorations including candle holders, bats, witches, and more.

Admission to the frightful event is \$3 for adults and \$1 for children ages six to 16. Children under six will be admitted free.

For more information, contact Storowton Village Museum at (413) 787-0136.

Turnverein To Hold Annual Craft Fair

Saturday, October 29th is the day for the Springfield Turnverein's annual Craft Fair. Located at 176 Garden Street in Feeding Hills, the fair (which will run from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) will feature local crafters displaying their beautiful work from Christmas items, flower arrangements, and children's clothing (just to name a few). There will also be a bake sale and plant table.

Lunch will also be available with such German specialties as sauerkraut, German potato salad, knockwurst, and even hot dogs being served. (Sauerkraut and potato salad will also be on sale to take home and enjoy later.)

So come and take a look at what is being offered. You may even find a Christmas gift or two, since the holidays will be here before we know it!

Operation Friendship Slates Sweatshirt Sale For Fri., November 4th

Just in time for your holiday shopping, Operation Friendship is sponsoring a sweatshirt sale on Friday, November 4th, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the community room of the Feeding Hills Congregational Church.

You'll be sure to find all your favorite brand names (including Champion, Polo, Cavaricci, and Co-Ed Naked) at wholesale prices.

In addition to a great selection of team sweatshirts, we'll have tee-shirts and other athletic clothing on hand.

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Boneless Spoon Roast	\$2.69 Lb.
Boneless Top Round London Broil	\$2.99 Lb.
Beef Round Cube Steak	\$2.89 Lb.
Beef Round Stew Beef	\$2.69 Lb.
Fresh Ground Round (3 Lbs. Or More)	\$2.69 Lb.
Loin Half Pork Loins (8 Lb. Avg. Wt., Chops & Roast)	\$1.89 Lb.
Rib Half Pork Loins (8 Lb. Avg. Wt., Chops & Roast)	\$1.69 Lb.
Grade "A" Chicken Breast	
Whole	\$1.29 Lb.
Split	\$1.49 Lb.
New Skin-On Boneless Chicken Breast	\$1.99 Lb.
Fresh Ground Chuck	
5 Lbs. Or More	\$1.89 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.69 Lb.

WHOLESALE MEATS

Whole Boneless Top Sirloins	\$1.89 Lb.
Whole Boneless Top Rounds	\$1.89 Lb.
Whole Butt Tenderloins	\$3.89 Lb.

DELI

Land O' Lakes White American Cheese	\$2.89 Lb.
Russer German Bologna	\$1.19 Lb.
Olympic Domestic Ham	\$1.39 Lb.
Citterio Mortadella With Pistacio	\$2.69 Lb.
Citterio Genoa Salami	\$2.99 Lb.
Citterio Hot Or Sweet Cappi	\$3.49 Lb.
Thumann's Gourmet Turkey Breast	\$3.99 Lb.

DAIRY

Sweet Life 1% Low Fat Milk (Gallon)	\$1.99
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SEAFOOD

Fresh Scrod Fillet	\$2.99 Lb.
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PRODUCE

Local Potatoes (10 Lb. Bag)	\$1.39
McIntosh Apples (3 Lb. Bag)	99¢
New Local Onions (3 Lb. Bag)	89¢
California Eating Oranges (Dozen)	\$1.69
California Carrots (1 Lb. Bag)	39¢

**Agawam Sweatshirts Now Available Here
(Regular & Hooded)**

Lions Club Plan Big Pancake Breakfast

The Agawam Lions will sponsor its Harvest Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, November 6th at the Agawam Lions Club, Eastern States Exposition Grounds, West Springfield, with servings from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Cost for adults is \$3.50 and \$2 for children.

All profits will go to the Lions' scholarships and other projects. Community support is necessary for the Lions to continue their humanitarian projects.

Tickets can be purchased from any member of the Lions Club or at the door. They are looking forward to seeing you there.

The Lions have dedicated themselves to eliminate blindness and eye disease by establishing and funding the Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund, Inc.

Since its inception, more than \$5 million has been raised and donated to eye research. Your generosity and public support has helped the Lions establish Boston as the leading eye research center in the world!

The Agawam Lions Club is the first club in the State of Massachusetts to have contributed over \$250,000 to eye research.

Lions are men and women who volunteer their time to humanitarian causes in their local and world communities. By conducting service projects and raising funds, Lions strive to help those in need, wherever need exists. The Lions' motto is "We Serve."

In 1925, Helen Keller addressed the Lions at their annual International Convention, challenging them to become "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness." Since that time, service to the blind and visually impaired has become one of the association's most significant activities. That crusade has resulted in the establishment of "Sight First," a global sight prevention program.

In addition, Lions participate in service activities emphasizing diabetes awareness, education, and research; work with the physically and mentally impaired; environmental issues; community welfare; international understanding, and youth.

The association was founded in Chicago, Illinois in 1917. Although the youngest major service club organization, Lions Clubs International has grown to be the world's largest.

Its 1.4 million members belong to clubs in over 180 countries and geographical locations. Lions Clubs International is headquartered in Oak Brook, Illinois.

To the Lions, "We Serve" is not only a motto, but a definition and philosophy.

Membership in a Lions Club is by invitation. Clubs meet at least twice a month and elect officers annually. The association is governed by an international board of directors, elected by Lions from around the world at their annual International Convention.

Through membership, Lions not only help people in need, but have opportunities to develop personal friendships and gain valuable leadership skills.

Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, October 31st: Pork cutlet, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, oatmeal bread, fresh banana.

Tuesday, November 1st: Birthdays and anniversaries—Hamburger stew (hamburger, onions, potatoes, carrots), tossed salad, whole wheat bread, cake.

Wednesday, November 2nd: Stuffed pepper, mashed potatoes, corn, Canadian oat bread, baked custard.

Thursday, November 3rd: Baked chicken leg, Spanish rice, peas, pumpernickel bread, canned peaches.

Friday, November 4th: Baked fish, potato fries, cabbage & carrots, rye bread, canned pears.

(Menu subject to change without notice.)



AGAWAM LIONS CLUB MEMBERS who are making preparations for a Pancake Breakfast on November 6th include, (from right to left) - Raymond Olson, chairman; John Negrucci, food chairman; Joseph Bianca, club president; and James Loomis, food chairman.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Associate Publisher Of *Union News* To Appear Before Mercy Warren DAR Nov. 1st

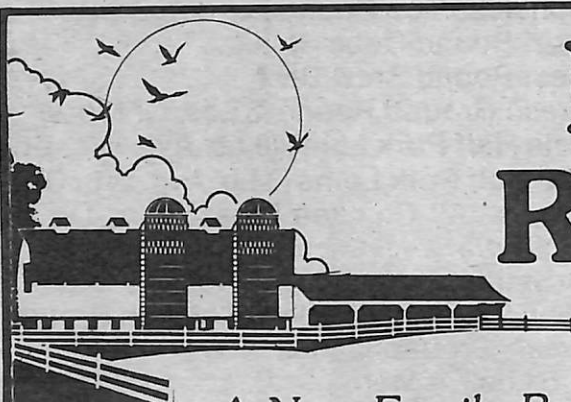
Mercy Warren Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, will hold its Tuesday, November 1st meeting in the Guild Rooms of Faith United Church, 52 Sumner Avenue, at 1:00 p.m., preceded by a tea at 12:15 p.m.

Guest speaker will be Richard C. Garvey, prominent local historian and Associate Publisher of the *Sunday Republican-Union News*. His timely topic, "Western Massachusetts Congressmen in Washington's Day," will be a contrast to present

day politics.

The American Heritage Corner will feature Western Massachusetts memorabilia. Honored guests will include state officers and co-directors of District VI, Mrs. Louis Parry-Haddad of Great Barrington, and Mrs. William Fraser of Athol.

Persons interested in membership are welcome or should contact Mrs. William Roan of Longmeadow (567-5771), or Mrs. Lewis M. Gentry of West Springfield, State DAR Registrar (733-5484).



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Gubby & Friends Set Pizza Party To Help Scleroderma Research

On Wednesday, November 9th, at the Dante Club in West Springfield, a pizza and beer party for scleroderma research will be held. This party will be the last event for 1994, according to Gubby and friends.

This event, and many others held in the past, is held in memory of Ruth Borgatti, who succumbed to this disease in 1973. Her daughters, Marilyn Duclos, Ann Marie Doyle, and Lois Menard, and their husbands work very hard at promoting these events. Also pitching in to help make them successful are chefs Paul Maria and Tom Frasco.

The Friends of this party are beer distributors Adrienne Frasco and Beatrice Charest, Donna and John Hunter (providing the pizza toppings), and Jay Frasco, John & Dee Dee Duncan, and Don Belleveau.

A total of 250 tickets will be sold. Sales are going at a very brisk pace. The only available tickets to be sold at the door are the ones returned that night.

The motto of these friends is "All you can eat and drink from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. or until we run out." Any pizza left over will be sold either cooked or uncooked. The price of tickets is \$5.99 per person. Soft drinks will be available at no charge.

The friends also say "Let's make this event one of our best, and we would like to earn an extra \$1,000 to take to New Castle, Pennsylvania for research." The national foundation is having its 25th anniversary in 1995 and that's why the friends would like to bring them \$6,000 instead of \$5,000 for the anniversary. With the help of all their supporters, they feel it can be done.

These friends would also like to thank the Dante Club, *The AAN*, and contributors for their cooperation. For tickets, call Gubby at 786-2834. Thank you one and all for your past attendance.

Barbara Ann Moreau Bride Of Mr. Lisius

Miss Barbara Ann Moreau, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Moreau of 1245 North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, recently became the bride of Andrew Gerard Lisius, son of Mr. & Mrs. Charles Lisius of Lake Mills, Wisconsin.

The Reverend Kenneth Tatro performed the ceremony at Sacred Heart Church on August 20, 1994.

Miss Lynn Moreau attended her sister as maid-of-honor, and brother of the groom, Mr. Carl Lisius, was the best man.

Serving as bridesmaids were Mrs. Lisa Asselin, Mrs. Lisa Hagopian, Ms. Tara Hoffman, Mrs. Cathy Pelletier, and Miss Pamela Moreau was flower girl. The ushers were Mr. Raymond Asselin, Mr. Robert Geoffroy, Mr. Scot Holman, Mr. Jacques Malboeuf, and Mr. Anthony Lisius as ring bearer.

Following a reception at the Sheraton Monarch Place, the couple left for a honeymoon at Disneyworld.

The bride is a graduate of Agawam High School and is in the Air Force stationed at Plattsburgh Air Force Base in New York.



MR. & MRS. ANDREW G. LISIUS

The groom is a graduate of Lake Mills High School and is also in the Air Force, stationed at the same base. They are both air traffic controllers.

Senior Center Friends Slate Annual Dinner For November 3rd

The Friends of the Senior Center and the Council on Aging will host their Annual Dinner on Friday, November 4th at the Agawam Senior Center.

A social hour will be held at 6:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m. Donation is \$12 per person. Tickets are available at the Senior Center.

Entertainment will be provided by the very talented and well-known ventriloquist Gary Brodeur.

Cote Family Elated Over Birth Of Son

Judy Cote of Agawam and Michael Cote of Houlton, Maine are happy to announce the birth of their first grandchild, Christopher Farrell Cote, who arrived on October 13, 1994, weighing in at 10 pounds, 12 ounces.

Christopher is the son of Tammy Cote and Charles Taylor of Houlton, Maine. Christopher is also the first great-grandchild of Robert and Violet Cummings of Feeding Hills.

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Agawam Senior Center Calendar Of Events For November

Tuesday, November 1st: 9:00 a.m. SHINE (Serving Health Information Needs of Elders). By appointment.

Tuesday, November 1st: 11:30 a.m. Birthday and anniversary celebration. Reservations needed.

Tuesday, November 1st: 1:00 p.m. Free blood pressure check. No reservations needed.

Wednesday, November 2nd: 9:00 a.m. Podiatry with Dr. Haynes. By appointment.

Wednesday, November 2nd: 1:30 p.m. Golden Age group meeting, Chapter II.

Friday, November 4th: 9:00 a.m. Free diabetic screening. By appointment.

Friday, November 4th: 6:30 p.m. COA & Friends' Annual Awards Dinner. Tickets (\$12) on sale at the Senior Center.

Monday, November 7th: 1:00 p.m. Bingo.

Wednesday, November 9th: 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Free flu shots.

Wednesday, November 9th: 1:30 p.m. Golden Age group meeting, Chapter I.

Thursday, November 10th: 9:00 a.m. Podiatry with Dr. Salem. By appointment.

Friday, November 11th: Veterans' Day. Senior Center will be closed.

Monday, November 14th: 1:00 p.m. Bingo.

Tuesday, November 15th: 9:00 a.m. SHINE. By appointment.

Tuesday, November 15th: 1:00 p.m. Free blood pressure check. No reservations needed.

Wednesday, November 16th: 1:30 p.m. Golden Age group meeting, Chapter II.

Wednesday, November 16th: 7:30 p.m. The play "Oliver" at Bay Path College.

Thursday, November 17th: 9:00 a.m. Foot care nurses. By reservation.

Thursday, November 17th: 10:00 a.m. A.S.G.A. (Agawam "Senior Games" Athletes) meeting. All who are interested are invited to attend.

Friday, November 18th: Special "traditional" dinner and entertainment. By reservation. (No classes on this day.)

Monday, November 21st: 1:00 p.m. Bingo.

Tuesday, November 22nd: 12:00 noon. Special program - "Living Needs Benefit" with Chris Olko, Prudential representative.

Tuesday, November 22nd: 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Free legal consultation with Attorney Teryl Deegan. By appointment.

Wednesday, November 23rd: 1:30 p.m. Golden Age meeting, Chapter I.

Thursday, November 24th: Thanksgiving Day. Senior Center closed.

Monday, November 28th: 1:00 p.m. AARP meeting.

Tuesday, November 29th: "The Wonder of Water Color" class.

A Time For Thanks

Another "great dinner" is scheduled at the Senior Center. Betty and her kitchen crew are hustling, as usual, to get a menu together that will "knock your socks off" ... AGAIN!

Thanksgiving dinner is scheduled for Friday, November 18th. Entertainment after dinner will be the delightful Ms. Barbara Hill, and it wouldn't be Friday without the great music of Frieda and Jim tickling the ivories.

Reservations are open and limited. Call today for yours—786-0400, ext. 242.

Wanted

Retired musicians wanted to get together just for the fun of it! Don't be bashful ... we know you're out there. All you have to remember is we're all in the same boat and it's just a "fun" project.

If you haven't touched that instrument in years, now is the time to dust it off, oil it up, warm it up, or do whatever you have to. Join us!

The tentative schedule times will be either on Thursday mornings or Tuesday afternoons. For more information, call Sandra S. Smith, Activities Director, at 786-0400, ext. 242.

Special 12:30 Program Scheduled For November

Another service offered—no one can predict the future, but "you can prepare for it."

Christopher Olko, a representative from Prudential, will be at the Senior Center on Tuesday, November 22nd, at 12:30 p.m. to explain how the "Living Needs Benefit" works. What it is not is a health or long-time care insurance benefit, and it is not intended to eliminate your need for health or long-term care insurance.

Rather, the "Living Needs Benefit" is a valuable benefit ADDED to assist by advancing funds from the death benefit should a financially draining terminal illness occur. The seminar is intended to make you, our seniors, better informed so that your decisions will be practical and to your benefit.

Mark your calendar for Tuesday, November 22nd, at 12:30 p.m.

SEE SENIOR CENTER - Page 29...

AHS Class Of 1954 Gathers For 40th



MEMBERS OF THE AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1954 gathered for their 40th reunion at the Hofbrauhaus Restaurant in West Springfield on Saturday evening, October 15th. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



AGAWAM HIGH CLASS OF 1954 members who traveled the furthest to attend the 40th-year reunion on October 15th included, from left - Ellsworth L. "Skip" Sharpe; Bob Clam-pit, Illinois; Julie Mercadante, Florida; Don Marsian, Florida; Ralph D'Amato, Maryland.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



REUNION COMMITTEE MEMBERS of the Agawam High Class of 1954 at the 40-year reunion on October 15th at the Hofbrauhaus in West Springfield. From left - Dolores Cichetti, Betty Baszak, Joan Bonello, Millie Pohner, Dan Molta, Pudgy Phillips, and Delores Green.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

SENIOR CENTER - from Page 28...

The Wonder Of Watercolor

The introduction to a future "fun-filled," four-hour course in watercolor painting, will be presented by Mr. William Duke on Tuesday, November 15th, at 12:30 p.m. Novice and experienced artists are welcome to attend this free introductory program.

Mr. Duke will show you how you can learn to paint in watercolor in ONE day. A four-hour course will be offered to anyone who is interested in "signing up" after the presentation, which is scheduled for Tuesday, November 29th.

All necessary supplies are provided at no extra charge. Each participant will receive individual attention, as there will be only 10 students to one class. The price will be \$19.95 per student.

For more information, please call Sandra Smith, activities, at 786-0400, ext. 242.

Flu Shots At The Senior Center

Flu shots are scheduled to be given on Tuesday, November 9th, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. "Evita!"

The activities department at the Agawam Senior Center is planning to make "group tickets" available through the Senior Center for "Evita!", the winner of seven Tony Awards (including Best Musical) featuring the haunting "Don't Cry For Me Argentina."

The show will be held at Springfield Symphony Hall on Saturday, February 4, 1995 at 8:00 p.m. Please express your interest AS SOON AS POSSIBLE (so that we can reserve the best seats available to us, at the best price) by calling the activities department, 786-0400, ext. 242.

Jesus Christ Superstar

Scheduled for Saturday, March 4, 1995 at 8:00 p.m.

Bay Path Show - Wednesday, November 16th

Show time: 8:00 p.m. (must be seated by 7:30 p.m.). "Oliver" is on tap for the '94-'95 season stage shows at Bay Path College. Tickets are now available at the Senior Center for \$5 and are available to senior citizens only.

"Oliver" captures the flavor of 1850 London with a host of Dickens' most colorful characters. Bay Path's large cast of adults and children sing and dance the rousing and tuneful score, which includes hits which had become standards in America even before the show opened on Broadway. "Oliver" was also adapted into the Oscar-winning film in 1968.

Coming To Bay Path

In March, Bay Path will present "Hello Dolly." The ticket booth at the Senior Center is open daily, Monday through Friday, between 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. For more information, call Activities Director Sandra Smith at 786-0400, ext. 242.



Update On Agawam's Senior Games Athletes

The next meeting for ASGA will be on Thursday, November 17th, beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Agawam Senior Center. Anyone who wishes to be part of ASGA (as a member or an associate), please feel free to attend.

The Agawam Senior Athletes are busy raising funds to help sponsor qualified athletes to the "Nationals," which will be held in San Antonio, Texas, in June 1995.

On November 12th, ASGA members will participate in the Christmas Bazaar (to be held at Heritage Hall) selling an array of items, including their popular candy bars.

They hope to see you there.

ASGA members will be out and about town again, working hard (and having fun) selling candy bars. You will find them at the Food Mart on Saturday and Sunday, November 26th and 27th.

ASGA would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the management of Food Mart and Dave's Soda and Pet Food City for allowing its members to raise funds.

Also, a special thank you to the folks who buy the candy bars and the ones who are generous to just give to the fundraiser. Again, sincere thanks!

Best local news...

AHS Class Of 1974 Still Seeking Classmates For 20-Year Reunion

The Agawam High School Class of 1974 is continuing plans for a big 20-year reunion on Friday evening, November 25th (night after Thanksgiving) at Alexander's Restaurant in Feeding Hills.

Committee members have forwarded information packets to as many classmates as possible (with last known addresses or addresses of parents still in town).

The following classmates cannot be located. These classmates include: **Mario Albano, Linda Arcouette, Robin Arthur, Carol Avery, Donna Bailey, Denise Bedard, Lisa Bellemore, Joanne Blair, Denise Boissanault, James Botelho, Debra Bouchard, Lea Bouchard, Bruce Buckingham, Jean Bussoirai, David Capodgall, Claire Carey, David Carey, Laura Chapman, Patricia Cook, Joel Cummings, John Donovan, and Jan Donovan.**

Also, **Norm Dufault, George Ekekiel, Barbara Gallup, Charles Gaudino, Daniel Sheehan, Mike Rossi, Joe Serra, Martha Simone, Linda Griggs,**

Tina Hamel, Edward Hope, Suzanne LaPlante, Peter Larini, Laura LaRiviere, Diane Mallory, Dennis Malley, Debra Merryman, Donald Morawski, Val Nicholls, Maureen O'Connor, Vincent Perrotta, Michael Plasse, Nancy Rackliffe, Rob Rennell, Leonard Rising, Ray Rivers, and Robin Robbins. Also, **Patty Waterman, Joan Werner, Debbie West, Greg Wright, Debbie Yahner, and Walter Ziemba.**

If you have the phone numbers or information on any of the above members of the AHS Class of 1974, please contact any of the following committee members - Donna & Mike Bodurtha, 786-4351; Sheryl Hadden Fleming, 786-7578; Laura Kibbe Moran, 786-3370; Mike Walsh, 786-4545; or Ric Sardella (789-2005, evenings, or 786-7747, daytime).

Classmates who are coming to the reunion should mail in their ticket payments and questionnaire immediately.

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Twin Lobsters

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Serving 4:00 To 10:00 P.M. Every Thursday

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Pasta Night

Choice Of 4 New Sauces
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Tuesday

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Breakfast Served Tuesday Through Sunday
Lunch Served Tuesday Through Friday

Play Keno With Us



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Feeding Hills

786-5788

Ag. Golden Age Clubs' November Calendar

Nov. 2nd: Chapter 2 - Regular meeting at 1:30. Guest speakers Eileen & Shirley from the Ely & Assoc. Spec. Tours. Topic: "Packing Perfect & Traveling Light."

Nov. 3rd: Chapter 1 - Trip to Foxwoods Casino, Ledyard, Connecticut.

Nov. 4th: Chapter 1 - Board of Directors Meeting, 1:00 p.m. at the Senior Center.

Nov. 9th: Chapter 1 - Regular meeting at 1:30 w/Thanksgiving Baskets. Entertainment by the Agawam Senior Center Melody Band.

Nov. 9th: Chapter 2 - A "Mystery Trip."

Nov. 16th: Chapter 2 - Regular meeting at 1:30 p.m. Turkey Raffle. Guest speaker Dave Madsen from Channel 40.

Nov. 21st: Chapter 2 - Trip to Foxwoods Casino, Ledyard, Connecticut.

Nov. 23rd: Chapter 1 - Regular meeting at 1:30 w/gift bingo.

Nov. 25th: Chapter 2 - Board of Directors Meeting, 1:00 p.m. at Senior Center.

Nov. 30th: Chapter 1 - Trip to the Williams Inn, Williamstown, MA to enjoy a "Christmas Celebration."

"Share A Story" Event At Agawam Library

The Agawam Public Library invites local families of all ages to join in its four-week "Share A Story" event, beginning November 7th.

Any member of the family can pick up weekly reading logs at the library and record time spent reading together. At the end of each week, all participants will earn incentive stickers, and after December 3rd, every family who participated during all four weeks will receive Reading Award Certificates suitable for framing.

Reading lists with favorite books and authors for a variety of age groups will be available, and new books will be on display for checking out as well.

The "Share A Story" program is designed for parents, children, and all family members who would like to share the pleasures of reading together in the home.

For more information, contact Jeanne Hoffmann, Children's Librarian, or Eileen Chapman, Children's Library Associate.



GETTING READY FOR THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR at Heritage Hall Nursing Home are residents Fritz Kerber, Pauline Bekes, and Priscilla Pelletier, under the supervision of volunteer Ruth Shoemaker. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Heritage Hall Plans Annual Bazaar For Saturday, November 12th

Heritage Hall Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, a Genesis Health Venture nursing facility, is having its annual Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, November 12th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The Bazaar will take place on the Heritage Hall campus located off Cooper Street and Main Street.

Each of the four campus buildings will be selling craft items and baked goods made by Heritage Hall residents and the community. In addition, tag sale tables and raffles will be held. Proceeds from the Bazaar will be used for special event programming for residents.

The public is encouraged to attend. For more information, contact Kimberly George, Director of Volunteer Services at (413) 786-8000.

Heritage Hall Nursing and Rehabilitation Center is one of 100 centers throughout the country-owned Genesis Health Ventures, Inc. Genesis provides a broad range of health care services to the geriatric population.

Community Grange To Meet Nov. 1st/15th

Community Grange No. 382, 47 North West Street, Feeding Hills will be holding regular meetings on November 1st and 15th.

Card parties are scheduled for November 3rd and November 17th, hosted by Donna Charron and Newton Thompson.

Junior Grange meetings will be held November 14th and 28th. Non-Grange meetings include the Feeding Hills Women's Club, Wednesday, November 2nd; the Hampden County Beekeepers, Thursday, November 10th; and the Greater Springfield Knitting Guild, Tuesday, November 22nd.

Robert Watson Named Gallano Winner By Council On Aging

The Agawam Council on Aging announced today that the 1994 winner of the prestigious Andrew Gallano Award is Robert Watson. The award honors those who have made continuous efforts on behalf of the town's older citizens.

The award will be presented at the Council on Aging/Friends of the Senior Center's Annual Dinner held on Friday, November 4th, beginning at 6:00 p.m., at the Senior Center. Tickets are \$12 and are available at the center. Previous winners have been Viola Smith, Louis Scherpa, Frank Chriscola, and Jim Griffin.

Genealogical Society To Meet November 2nd

The Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 2nd at Blake House, adjacent to the Connecticut Valley Historical Museum located at the Quadrangle off Chestnut Street.

Members may pursue their genealogy research at the museum from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., prior to the open meeting of the association.

An informational program will follow the meeting.

Genealogy is both rewarding and frustrating, but always fascinating. Newcomers are always welcome; it is never too late (or too early) to work on your family tree.

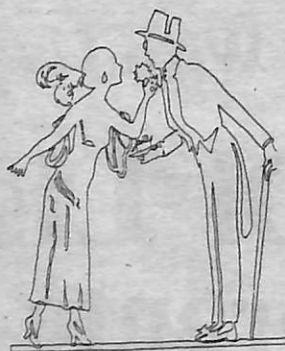
Newcomb Family Has Baby Daughter, Taylor

David and Kelly Newcomb of Mansfield are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Taylor Scott, who was born on September 22, 1994. She weighed nine pounds, eight ounces at birth.

Taylor's grandparents are Blair and Elaine Newcomb of Walpole, and James and Anita McNamee of Agawam.

— We're Open —

- Gourmet Chocolates
- Penny Candy
- Fine Giftware
- Crafts From Local Artisans



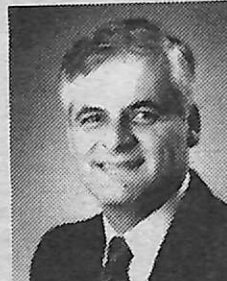
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Auto	\$660+12=\$55.00
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	\$125.00

Mo. billing charge \$2.00
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Feeding Hills Center



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Westfield, MA
(413) 562-7311

FEEDING HILLS ROOM TO GROW



In this expandable Cape in family neighborhood. 2 baths, 2 unfinished rooms, 2nd level. Breezeway and garage, nice yard. **\$106,500.**

789-9890 Barry Boccasile 786-3518

WEST SPRINGFIELD PRICE REDUCED



Country Cape with heated 2 car gar & porch. New ceramic tile bath, dining room, rec room, hardwood floors. Much redecorating. **\$120,900.**

789-9890 Kathy Rose 786-5187

GRANVILLE DESIGNER WONDER



Ornate windows and woodwork. Gourmet kitchen, massive stone fpic/family room. Creative use of beams/vaulted ceilings. MBR/suite. **\$259,000.**

789-9890 Kathy Rose 786-5187

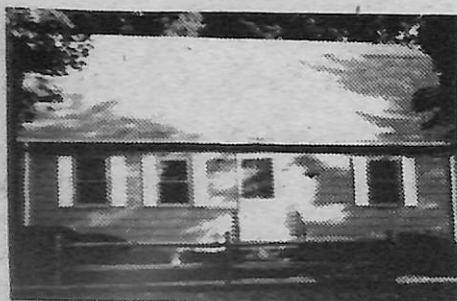
SOUTHWICK NEW CONSTRUCTION



Woodsy cul-de-sac, 2½ acre location, innovative floor plan come with 10 room, 5 bedroom, 3½ bath Cape. Over 2,800 s.f. living space. **\$269,900.**

789-9890 Barry Boccasile 786-3518

FEEDING HILLS NEW HEATING SYSTEM



Takes the worry out of winter's cold. Also cozy fireplace in living room. 4 bedrooms, 2 full baths, much redecorating make this a great buy. **\$134,900.**

789-9890 Kathy Rose 786-5187

AGAWAM LOW MAINTENANCE



Exterior-vinyl/brick ranch in nice spot with many extras. Finished basement, cen/air & vac. Huge kitchen, private back yard, solar hot water. **\$136,900.**

789-9890 Barry Boccasile 786-3518

AGAWAM REDUCED



Great buy for 1st timers. 6 room Cape with 3 bedrooms, nicely decorated, mud/laundry room off deck in rear. Large yard. **\$88,900.**

789-9890 David Modzeleski 789-1935

AGAWAM GREAT POTENTIAL



In this unique Cape that could use some tender loving care. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, open and bright kitchen, 2 car garage. **Only \$97,900.**

789-9890 Kathy Rose 786-5187

Feature Of The Week... SOUTHWICK



New Listing - Nicely maintained raised ranch in absolutely gorgeous setting. Large lot with backyard, 20' x 40' inground. Vinyl exterior, FWA oil heat, 2 car garage and More! **\$139,900.**

789-9890

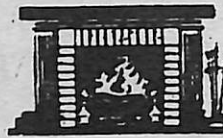
Barry Boccasile

786-3518

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(Located on the Southwick/Westfield Town Line)

FEEDING HILLS OPEN 2 - 4, SUN. OCT. 30

11 High Meadow
(Off N. Westfield/Robin Ridge)



Major price reduction on this 6 room, vinyl sided ranch with family kitchen. Lovely area near schools, shopping, wooded trails. **\$123,000.**

569-0137 Patti Dunn O'Connell 569-6298

SOUTHWICK JUST LISTED!



A 3 bedroom ranch in desirable area near schools. 5 rooms with knotty pine rec room. Also large yard to play in. Call now. **\$107,900.**

562-7311 Barbara Wilgus 747-4911

SOUTHWICK ATTENTION

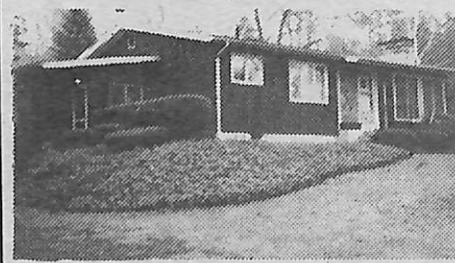


First time buyers! - Home with 5 rooms, wood stove with hearth, enclosed porch, 1 car garage on private fenced corner lot. **ONLY \$87,900.**

569-0137 Peg Lis 569-3083

WESTFIELD OPEN 2:30 - 4:30, SUN. OCT. 30

556 Loomis (Off Granville Rd.)



Newly remodeled home with 3 bedrooms, living room with fireplace, rec room, 2 car garage. Spacious yard with brook. **Only \$153,900.**

562-7311 Barbara Wilgus 747-4911

Announcing the first Health Care Service Guarantee.

(Yes, really.)

INTRODUCING THE FIRST HEALTH CARE SERVICE GUARANTEE.

With the introduction of our Health Care Service Guarantee, the quality of customer service in health care is now equal to the quality of care. Here's how it works. When you visit us we will: See you when you need to be seen. Avoid inconvenient delays in serving you. Treat you in a competent, compassionate and friendly way. Listen to and understand your needs. Care for you as a patient and a person. And provide you with information to help you maintain and improve your health and lifestyle. If you feel we have failed to deliver on any of these promises, just tell us and we will strive to resolve the problem and promptly forward you your individual contribution to next month's health insurance premium.* For more information, call (413)733-4101. Because your health is everything.



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AGAWAM

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VOTE "YES" ON QUESTION #11 TO BENEFIT AGAWAM

RIVERSIDE'S PROPOSAL WILL HOLD DOWN PROPERTY TAXES & GENERATE UP TO \$7 MILLION DOLLARS EVERY YEAR FOR VITAL TOWN PROJECTS

Question 11 is vital to the economic future of Agawam. When Agawam voters cast their ballots on November 8th, they will be making a decision which could move our town into a position of strength and prosperity. A "Yes" vote is a vote to support Riverside in its efforts to remain in business, and to support great improvements in town services without the need to raise taxes.

A casino at Riverside Park will generate up to \$7 million dollars every year in new revenue for Agawam. This revenue can be used for:

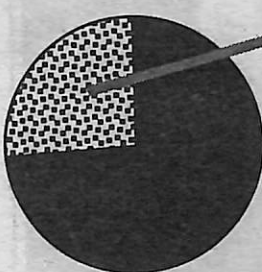
- **Holding the Line on Property Taxes**, and enabling our community to invest in services and programs that are in desperate need of attention. Some examples are:

- **Textbooks for our classrooms.** Currently many students use outdated books and books in poor condition, and are forced to share books because there are not enough to go around. Question 11 could pay for 125,000 (or more) new textbooks for our schools.

- **Computers in classrooms.** Right now there are not enough computers in our schools. We live in a world which depends on giving our children the most up-to-date exposure and training on computers. How can we get them ready to travel the information highway if they don't have the education today? Question 11 could pay for 2,250 (or more) new computers for our schools.

- **Fully Fund the planned School Building Expansions at five schools.** We need to move ahead with this priority project now, and Question 11 will mean that the work could be done with no additional tax burden to Agawam residents!

Increase in Agawam Property Tax Revenue
Without Need to Raise Taxes



26% (\$7 million) to
hold down taxes &
increase services

■ Current Tax Revenue
▨ New Tax Revenue

NEW REVENUE TO BE RECEIVED EVERY YEAR

- **Fully Fund the Senior Center Expansion.** Our senior citizens deserve the very best, and Question 11 can make the dreams of an expanded and refurbished Senior Center a reality.

- **Senior Transportation.** There is a great need to provide more transportation services for our elders. Question 11 can pay for new vehicles and staff, and allow Agawam to offer the best services to the people who have made Agawam what it is today - a great place to live and work.

- **A new Fire Station and Fire Engines.** How many years have we discussed this? We all know that we need to build a new station - and Question 11 will raise the revenue so that we can give our Fire Department the facilities and state-of-the-art equipment it needs to continue to serve our town effectively.

- **New Police Cruisers.** Our Police Department can and should have the very best. Question 11 can pay for a new fleet of cruisers, and additional resources - officers, equipment, trainings, etc. - to give our department the very best.

The new revenue raised for our town by a casino at Riverside would give us the ability to do any of these top priority items. **In fact, Agawam could have all of these needs met (and more) within just three years - and taxes wouldn't have to be raised one cent!**

We strongly urge a "YES" VOTE ON QUESTION 11 - Agawam's future depends on it.

PROJECT WILL CREATE THOUSANDS OF NEW JOBS IN AGAWAM

Question 11 will have a dramatic impact on the employment levels and the availability of good jobs for our area.

The construction of the proposed casino entertainment facility next to Riverside Park will create approximately 1,000 new construction jobs. These high-wage jobs will re-invigorate the building trades and put people back to work. The estimated economic impact to our region - Agawam and surrounding communities - will be over \$174 million dollars in payroll and materials, supplies, and other construction costs.

Once the facility is in operation an additional 1,500 Full Time, Permanent jobs will be created. Riverside and Lady Luck have pledged that the jobs will be filled by local residents - from management to hourly wage positions!

These new jobs will pay well above the state average wage. The average earnings (not including tips expected to be received by many of the positions) will exceed \$10.50 dollars per hour - with an average wage per year of over \$22,000.00!

The annual economic impact on our region from the operation of the casino facility is projected to be over \$122 Million Dollars every year.

This new facility will also enable Riverside Park to remain competitive - and in business. This will protect the 1,600 jobs now provided by Riverside for area workers.

Your vote on November 8th will affect over 4,100 jobs. A "YES" Vote for Question 11 is a vote to keep Agawam working, and a vote to create jobs.

SEE INSIDE FOR MORE INFORMATION ON QUESTION 11

Riverside's History & Economic
Contributions to Agawam - page 2

Facts v. Myths - page 3

Residents Speak Out
In Favor of Question 11 - page 4

How to Get More Information - page 4

RIVERSIDE PARK IS CORNERSTONE OF AGAWAM'S ECONOMIC FUTURE

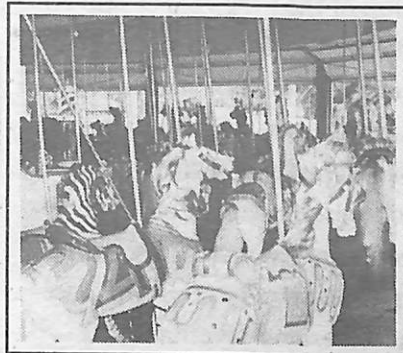
PARK NEEDS CASINO TO REMAIN COMPETITIVE

Ed Carroll, Jr., the President of Riverside Park, is serious when he discusses Riverside's future. One of the reasons he is so passionate about the future is because of the rich history Riverside has built in Agawam. "We've been here fifty-four years - and we want to be here another fifty-four," he explained.

Edward Carroll, Sr. opened Riverside in 1940. Throughout the ensuing years the Park has grown into the Largest Amusement Park in New England. **Riverside now employs 1,600 workers in peak season, directly spends \$12 million dollars in the Greater Springfield area every year, and brings about \$105 million dollars into the area economy on an annual basis.**

Agawam's economy depends on Riverside. Over the years thousands of Agawam residents have depended on Riverside for jobs. The town of Agawam and area businesses have depended on Riverside for tens of millions of dollars annually in direct economic spending (taxes, payroll, purchases, etc.).

Now, in order to remain competitive, Riverside is depending on Agawam to vote "Yes"



Riverside is part of Agawam's heritage and cares deeply about history. Pictured above is 1909 M.C. Illion Carousel artfully restored to its original splendor - the only one left in the nation!

on Question 11. Two area casinos are about to build amusement parks to create "total entertainment" destinations.

FOXWOODS CASINO TO BUILD \$100 MILLION DOLLAR PARK

Foxwoods, just to our south in Ledyard, Connecticut, has already outlined plans for its' \$100 million dollar amusement park. "If they go on-line with their park, and we don't have the ability to compete, we expect that about 25% of

"AGAWAM WOULD BE DEVASTATED IF RIVERSIDE IS FORCED TO CLOSE"



our business will be taken away," Carroll explained.

NEW BEDFORD CASINO MANDATED TO BUILD AMUSEMENT PARK

Just as concerning, in New Bedford the Governor signed an agreement with the Wampanoag Indians which allows them to build a casino, and actually MANDATES that they build a huge amusement park to go along with it. The New Bedford project could also siphon off up to 25 % on Riverside's business.



Riverside employs thousands of area residents

Riverside Park has never asked for special treatment. "All we want is the ability to operate on a level playing field. The decision is in the hands of Agawam voters - we simply ask each voter to consider our **commitment to the town, our history, our importance to the area economy, and our importance to the thousands of families that rely on Riverside as a place to work or to do business,**" Mr. Carroll noted.



Edward Carroll, Jr./Riverside President

OVERVIEW OF RIVERSIDE'S CASINO PROJECT - THE RIVER BELLE II

- The River Belle II project is named after the River Belle steamship that carried thousands of people weekly to Riverside Grove in the late 1800's. Highlights of the project include:
- A high-quality casino (very small in comparison to Foxwoods), a hotel, and an entertainment complex. **Total cost to build - \$100 Million dollars.**
- **1,000 Construction Jobs** will be created to build the facility.
- **1,500 Permanent Full Time Jobs** will be created to staff the facility.
- **The Average Wage for employees will be well above the state average.** Workers will earn over \$22,000 per year (many higher and some lower - not including gratuities).
- It will be built in a **secluded section of land separate from the park.**
- It will be **strictly regulated** by the state and the town.
- **Admittance will be restricted to adults.**

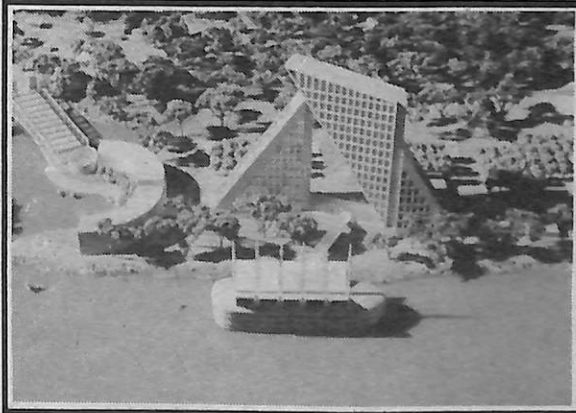
\$7 Million Dollars Every Year for Agawam

Hold the Line on Property Taxes

Create 2,500 Jobs in Agawam

Fund Vital Public Services:

- Textbooks & Computers for Schools •
- School Building Expansions •
- Senior Center Expansion •
- New Fire Station •
- Fire Engines & Police Cruisers •



- Access from the Park will be allowed only over a pedestrian footbridge - **with proper security measures in place.**
- Access for vehicles will be by a new, separate driveway, with more than enough parking to eliminate traffic backups.
- The facility will be an **entertainment destination.** Not a day trip - but a place people can come to stay, and will generate millions of dollars in tourism revenue for area businesses.
- The final design of the facility will be approved through the town. Riverside will work with the town and all permitting authorities to ensure that **the highest standards of public safety, traffic, and environmental design** are met.
- The facility will pay the town of Agawam an estimated \$7 million dollars every year in new revenue. Revenue that will **hold down taxes** and improve public services.

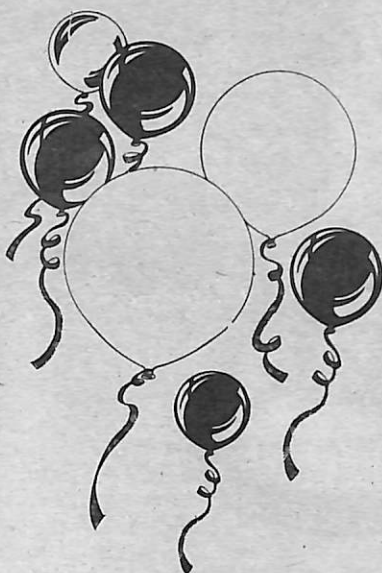
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9TH ANNIVERSARY... JOIN FOR ONLY
\$49 ENROLLMENT! (Reg \$198)

FINAL DAYS!



This Month, Fitness First is celebrating
9 YEARS of providing quality fitness
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No matter what your level of fitness may be,
 Fitness First has the program that's
 right for you! Join us this month and

you'll save 75% OFF
our regular enrollment fee!

It's our way of saying thanks for making

Fitness First your **#1 health club!**

Don't miss this once a year offer!
Offer Ends Saturday, October 29th.

HERE IS WHAT FITNESS FIRST HAS TO OFFER!

- **TREADMILLS, BIKES, AND STAIRMASTERS!**
 Rows and rows of equipment,
 so you won't have to wait!
- **INDOOR HEATED SWIMMING POOL!**
 Senior pool programs, Swimming Lessons,
 pool therapy and lap swimming!
- **NUTRITIONAL PROGRAMS!**
 Available with Registered Dietitian Nancy Dell!
- **NURSERY FACILITIES!**
 Fun but safe supervision,
 so you won't worry while you work out!
- **WELLNESS SEMINARS!**
 We have professionals in the field to speak on
 medical issues that might improve your health!
- **PHYSICAL THERAPY or MASSAGE THERAPY!**
 Both are available at our club!
- **YOGA!**
 Every Monday and Thursday
 evenings!
- **BIRTHDAY PARTIES!**
 They're so popular,
 you should book a month in advance!
- **PLAY RACQUETBALL!**
 In leagues or for fun!
- **AEROBICS!**
 From STEP to Circuit,
 and beginner to advance,
 we'll keep you moving!
- **PERSONAL TRAINERS!**
 That can take you on your own personalized workout!
- **CYBEX AND FREE WEIGHTS!**
 Pump up or tone up!
- **KARATE**
 With Master Mike for children ages 7 & up
 in 8 week sessions!
- **SPA, SAUNA, STEAM AND TANNING!**
 Relax or unwind during those cold months ahead!



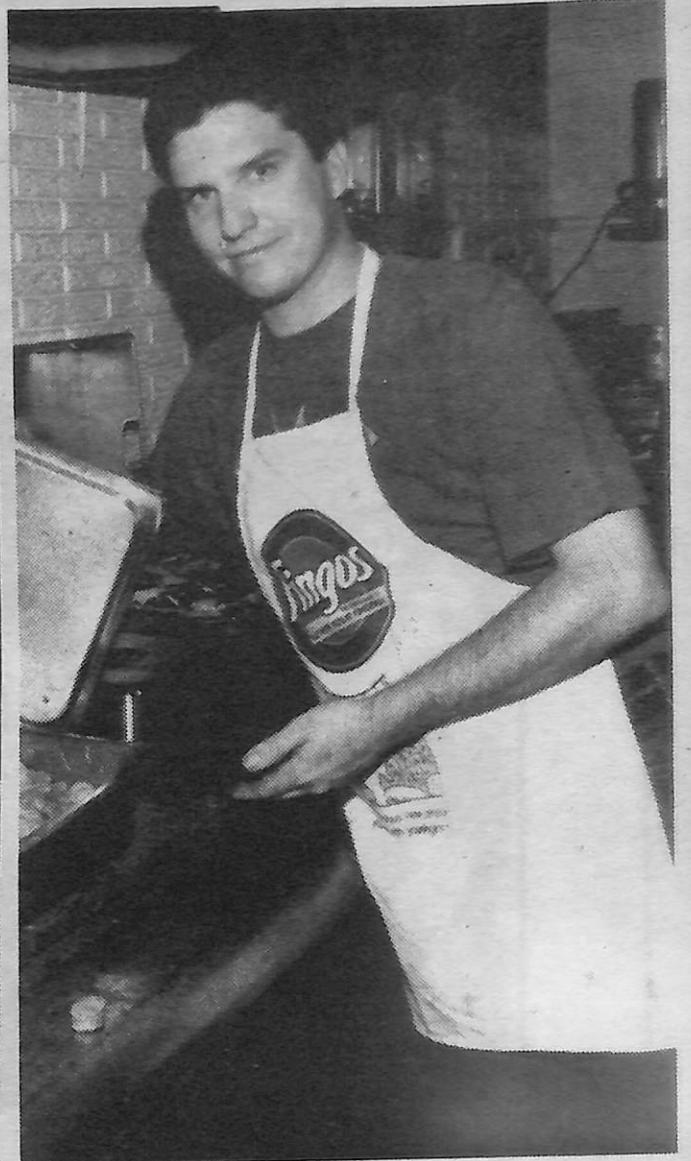
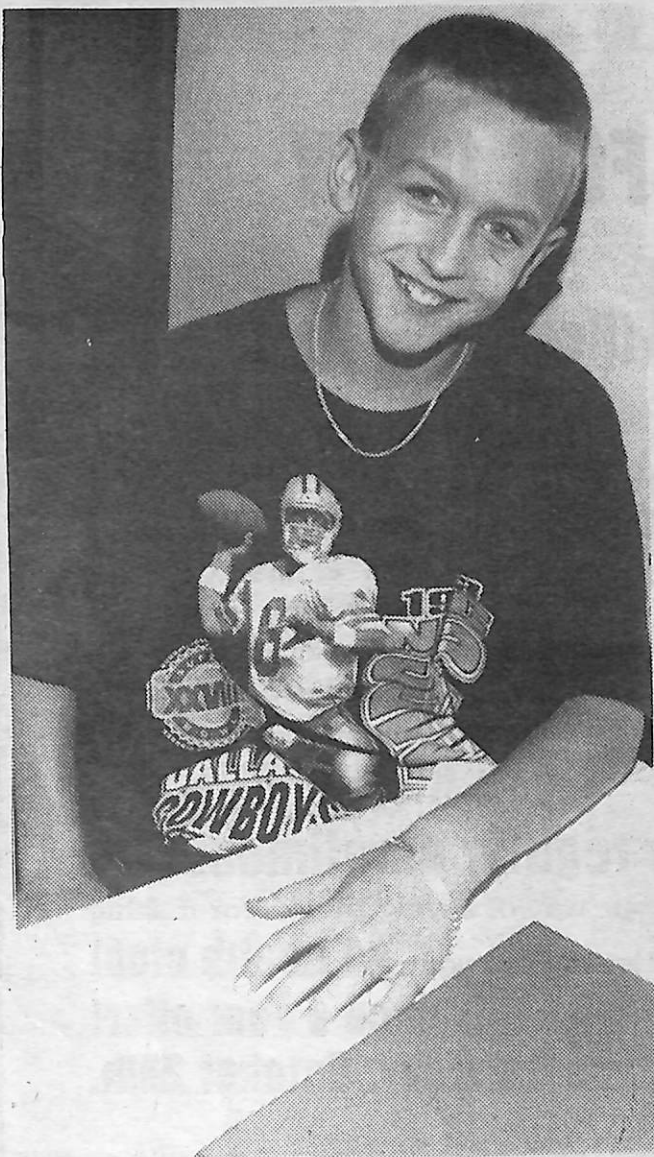
RACQUET & FITNESS CENTER

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ONLY AT FITNESS FIRST!

Church News

Supper Held At Valley Community



VALLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH held another in its series of monthly church suppers on Saturday, October 8th. From left - Darrow Thomas, Stefanie Thomas, Marjorie Lang, and Charles Garwacki. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Partners Restaurant 485 Springfield Street, Agawam & Stan's Soft Serve 1st Annual Rag Shag Parade

25¢ Ice Cream
Kiddie Cones

FREE
Cider, Donuts
& Coffee

All Ages
Welcome...



Sunday,
October
30th,
2:00 PM

Dress In Your Costume & Come To The Parade
Prizes For Best Costumes!!!

Home Equity Loan? Car Loan?

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Mon. - Tues. - Wed. 9-4
Thurs. - Fri. 9-5

4 Washington Avenue Extension, Agawam

Church News - continued...

Ag. Congregational Calendar Of Events

On Saturday, October 29th, our Junior High Youth will have a bowling party. Meet at the church at 7:00 p.m.

This Sunday is Stewardship Sunday, and this year's Stewardship theme is "Sharing Our Gifts."

The Junior High Youth of our church will be leading and participating in morning worship service at 10:30 a.m.

This Sunday continues our "Called To Care Informational Fall Forums" at 9:15 a.m.

The topic for this Sunday will be "Financial Planning" by Rufus Cashman, U.C.C. Representative. The final forum on November 6th will be "Alzheimer's Disease" by Carole Shulte, V.N.A. of Pioneer Valley A.D. Coordinator.

Coffee and donuts will be served at each forum. Please plan to attend these most informative meetings.

Our 3-2-1-KONTACT group will meet this Sunday for a hike at Laughing Brook Nature Center in Hamden. All kindergarten through third grade students are welcome. Bring a friend!

Playgroup is every Wednesday and Thursday morning at 10:00 a.m. The Playgroup follows the school calendar year and is open to all infants through five year-olds.

Stop by to chat with other caring adults while your child enjoys special play time. For more information, call Sue Tapply at 786-1430.

The Agawam Congregational Church youth will present a Variety/Talent Show, "The Greatest Show in Church," on Sunday, November 13th, at 6:00 p.m.

Donation is \$2 for adults, and 50¢ for children. Refreshments will be served.

Come enjoy a night of song, music, dance, comedy, and all-around fun!

Adults Nights Out—November 19th at Boston Billiards in West Springfield. Meet at the church at 7:30 p.m.

All are welcome to join in the fun!

The Annual Church Bazaar, "Holly Wreath Bazaar," is Saturday, November 19th, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Browse at all the different booths—"Country Craft Shop," "Nutmeg Bakery," "Garden Gate," and "The Cutting Edge" (to mention a few)—and then enjoy a delicious luncheon at the "Christmas Cafe" from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Check our classified

Ham And Bean Supper Slated At Valley Community Church

Valley Community Church will be holding its next monthly supper on Saturday, November 12th.

For this supper, the menu will consist of baked ham with baked beans. Also included is scalloped potatoes, carrots, tossed salad, pickles, olives, rolls with butter, and a beverage. And, to top it all off, take your choice from our "community famous" dessert table.

Seating begins at 5:00 p.m. and will last until 7:00 p.m. The cost is still only \$6.50 for adults, and \$3.25 for children.

Reservations are strongly suggested for this baked ham and bean supper by calling the church secretary at 786-2445.

Try to come early so you can see the sun set across the valley on the beautiful colors of fall from "high on a hilltop" at 152 South Westfield Street in Feeding Hills.

Rev. Robert Murray Visiting Valley Church

Valley Community Church is pleased to announce the return visit of Reverend Robert Murray at the end of October.

Reverend Murray will be back among his congregation from October 27th to October 30th. He will be conducting the Sunday Worship Hour at 10:00 a.m. with a sermon entitled, "Princes of Serendip."

A coffee hour will be held downstairs in Dunn Hall immediately after the service to personally welcome him home on this visit. The public, as always, is invited to join us.

Valley Community Church is located "high on a hilltop" at 152 South Westfield Street.

Nocturnal Adoration To Hold Mass For Deceased Members

The annual Mass For Deceased Members of the Nocturnal Adoration Society of Agawam and West Springfield will be celebrated on November 10th at 7:00 p.m. at the Dominican Nuns Chapel on Riverdale Road in West Springfield.

Most Rev. Thomas L. Dupre, Auxiliary Bishop of Springfield, will be the main celebrant. The installation of new members will take place at this liturgy.

F.H. Congregational Lists Events For Oct. 29th To Nov. 5th

Reverend Donaldson's sermon this week at Feeding Hills Congregational Church will be "Symbols and Substance."

All Youth Groups will be celebrating at a Halloween Party, Saturday, October 29th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. There will be special decorations and lots of fun for all.

Operation Friendship, a travel-for-free organization for young people, will have a fundraiser at the Church on Friday, November 4th from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. A sale featuring Champion and other name brand sweatshirts will take place at that time.

Do your holiday shopping early this year!

On the calendar this week:

October 29th: 6:00-8:00 p.m., Youth Group Halloween Party

October 30th: 2:00 p.m., Cub Scout Pack 78

October 31st: 6:00-9:00 p.m., Pheasant Hill Halloween Party

November 2nd: 2:45 p.m., Girl Scouts; 7:00 p.m., Choir; 7:30 p.m., Cub Scouts; 8:00 p.m. A.A.

November 3rd: 6:00 p.m., Girl Scouts

November 4th: 5:00-9:00 p.m., Operation Friendship Sweatshirt Sale

November 5th: 1:00-3:30 p.m., 4-9 Youth Group

Benevolent Society Plans Chicken Supper

The Ladies Benevolent Society of the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, 21 North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, is sponsoring a Chicken Pie Supper and mini-bazaar on Saturday, November 12th.

The menu will include chicken pie, whipped potatoes, butternut squash, green beans almondine, cranberry sauce, beet relish, rolls and butter, homemade apple or squash pie.

The cost is \$7 for adults and \$3 for children under eight. There will be continuous servings from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

For reservations, call Mrs. Marjorie Taylor at 786-1935, Mrs. Thelma Horenstein at 786-9195, or Mrs. Elise Bradway at 786-1409.

Adoration Society At St. Thomas Church

The Nocturnal Adoration Society of Agawam and West Springfield will meet at Saint Thomas Church in West Springfield to conduct and pray The Office of The Blessed Sacrament on Friday, November 4th, from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m.

All are invited to come and spend an hour in Eucharistic Adoration.

The Springfield Symphony

presents

POPS N'JAZZ



SATURDAY OCTOBER 29

IN SYMPHONY HALL AT 8 P.M.



Watts



Feldman

Jazz Sax player Ernie Watts joins the SSO and Boston Pops' Ronald Feldman in an evening of popular music

A symphonic preview of Walter Robinson's Gospel Opera *Look What a Wonder*

Reserve your tickets now! Call (413) 733-2291. Prices \$6, \$10, \$22, \$29, \$32 or visit the Symphony Box Office at 75 Market Place, Springfield (behind Johnson's Book Store).

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Using the most up-to-date tools available and our promise to instruct you on the most modern and up-to-date grooming tools and flea products for the proper maintenance of your dog.

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(Across From Agawam Police Station)

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786-6242

Walk-Ins Welcome 7:30 - 11:00 (Except Saturdays)

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Spotlight On Business



BITS & PIECES

by Raymond Rose
1-800-331-0880

Gain More Personal Time

Several weeks ago, my son, Michael, and I were talking about the many things that we have done to add "time" into our lives ... it has enabled us to accomplish more, and in fewer hours.

To help you spend more hours enjoying yourself (and fewer hours buried in chores), I've compiled a list of some of these timesaving tips. Some will save an hour a day ... others will save only minutes, but those minutes all add up. Choose the tips that work for you, and start gaining some extra time in your life.

Write a To-Do List ... I keep a running list in my computer of all the many things that pop into my mind throughout the day ... I break them down into categories (phone calls, car, home, computer, my family, my personal goals, etc.) and I prioritize them throughout the day. As soon as a thought enters my head, I write it down. I believe that this allows me to constantly be thinking, and I don't have to worry about remembering anything. It's my way of life.

Write a Not To-Do List ... include tasks that can be delegated, things done just to please others, and jobs whose completion is of little consequence. What would happen if someone else did the job, or it wasn't done? If the answer is nothing, cross it off your list.

Saying "NO" can be an effective time management tool ... people who have trouble saying no will be constantly overloaded by others.

When you're finished using or wearing something, put it away ... Teach your children, your fellow employees, (everyone!) to put things away in their proper location immediately when they are done. You'll cut down on the time that you spend looking for things and straightening out clutter.

Learn to delegate ... I always ask myself if the task can be done by someone else, either another member of my family, someone else at the office, or even paying someone else to do the work. When delegating, you must be specific: (1) Describe the job completely. (2) Set a deadline/time limits. (3) Make sure the person understands specifically what you want them to do. (4) Follow up and check their work.

Turn the TV off ... I remember reading that the average person watches about six hours a day of TV. Remember, time spent watching the tube is free time, so unless you really want to watch the program, turn the TV off. Also, if the program is important to you, tape it using your VCR. Don't let your life rotate around the particular time a show is on ... tape it, and watch it at your convenience.

Don't answer the phone ... screen your calls. Leave your answering machine on at all times, and pick up the phone only when necessary, and when you have the time and inclination to talk. This will prevent you from getting entangled in time-consuming calls from chatty friends. Get it in your head that when the phone rings, you don't have to answer it!

Group your errands geographically ... If you're using your To-Do List properly, you have grouped all the places you have to travel in your car. If you have three places to go in a certain vicinity, you should run those errands at the same time. Every time you go out, look at your To-Do List, and work your priorities.

Car time ... I keep a mini tape recorder by my side at all times. I get a tremendous amount of my thinking done during these periods, and I dictate most of my letters/messages/important ideas. Also, I suggest that you visit the Agawam Town Library ... they have a wide variety of self-help audio cassettes available. Browse through their selection ... you won't believe what they have on tape. **Use your car time to learn!** (P.S. ... always fill up your gas tank ... wasting time making several trips to the gas station throughout the week for small amounts of gas doesn't make sense.)

Sleep time ... I learned a long time ago to develop my system (my body) to live on five to six hours of sleep per day. When compared to others that sleep eight to nine hours a day, I instantly have an additional one to two hours available daily. Try setting your alarm clock (you use one, don't

SEE RAY ROSE - Page 39...

Cheryl Reisner Ends Realtor Course 302 For Stearns & Yerrall

George R. Yerrall, President of Stearns & Yerrall Realtors, has announced that Cheryl Reisner of the Agawam Sales Office has successfully completed Course 302 of the 1994 REALTOR Institute of Massachusetts held recently in Sturbridge.

The association sponsors Institutes throughout the year for realtors and realtor-associates as part of its continuing education program. Upon completion of six 15-hour courses, Institute participants receive the nationally recognized designation "GRI" (Graduate, REALTOR Institute).

Of over 82,000 GRI's nationwide, there are over 2,500 in Massachusetts. The Institute includes such subjects as Residential Construction and Design, Listings, Pricing Property, Marketing, Law Finance, Ethics, Management, Advertising, Real Estate Calculator, and Taxation.

Course 302 covers Commercial Real Estate, Investment Real Estate, Cash Flow Analysis, Managing Brokerage Operations, Human Behavior, and Industrial Real Estate. Approximately 60 people attended the Institute.

Cheryl Reisner has been a realtor for 10 years and is a member of the Greater Springfield Board of Realtors. She currently resides in Chicopee.

Anthony Janakas At Landry, Lyons, Whyte

Laurence D. Landry, President of LANDRY, LYONS & WHYTE Co./Better Homes and Gardens, announces that Anthony Janakas has joined the firm's Springfield office as a Sales Associate.

Anthony, a longtime resident of Springfield, currently resides in Agawam and holds a bachelor's degree from Western New England College. His six years experience as a Real Estate Asset Manager for a Connecticut firm will be beneficial to him in his new career.

LANDRY, LYONS & WHYTE Co./Better Homes and Gardens is the largest real estate firm in the Pioneer Valley and has over 200 salespeople and 11 offices with locations in Palmer, Chicopee, East Longmeadow, Feeding Hills, Longmeadow, Sixteen Acres, South Hadley, Springfield, West Springfield, Westfield, and Wilbraham.

For further information, please contact Laurence D. Landry at (413) 782-6000.

Century 21

by
John Schuler
Real Estate
Consultant



Newschu Real Estate, Inc.
20 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills

How To Make A Home More Accessible

It is estimated that 70 percent of all Americans will at some time in their lives be affected by a physical disability. For these individuals (many of whom are older adults aging into disability), barriers presented by typical residential living can seriously compromise their ability to maintain an independent lifestyle.

Stairs, narrow doorways, high countertops, and small bathrooms are only a few of the interior design elements found in most standard homes that prevent a physically-challenged person from leading a less-complicated life.

People with disabilities will find relief from some of these frustrations by making areas of the home more "accessible." An accessible home is a barrier-free home that offers built-in features or structural modifications that make it possible to accommodate the elderly, adults, and children with permanent disabilities, and those with temporary disabilities caused by injuries or surgery.

There are many ways to make living space more accessible. Here are a few to consider:

Widen doorways or take out walls to create more spacious hallways. This will allow people who use wheelchairs, walkers, or crutches to move about the house freely. Door width should be between 35 and 36 inches, with a threshold no higher than one-half inch. Hallways should be at least 42 inches wide, preferably 48 to 60 inches. Individual needs for access vary greatly. Wheelchairs are used for different reasons and come in many different sizes. While a 32-inch door width may be acceptable for one chair size, another user might require a 36-inch door width.

SEE REAL ESTATE - Page 39...



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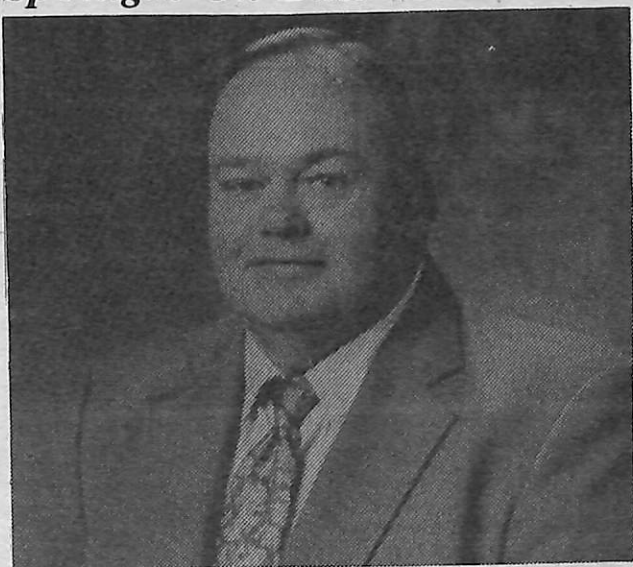
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Spotlight On Business - continued...**GEORGE DAWSON****George Dawson Joins Molta Real Estate**

Molta Real Estate, Inc. is pleased to announce that George Dawson has joined the staff of the Agawam office.

A lifelong resident of the area, George is married to a Feeding Hills girl (Loretta Stepanik). He attended Holderness School in Plymouth, New Jersey and graduated from the University of Massachusetts.

George has been active in real estate for the past eight years and prior to that was in a service related field. He comes to Molta with experience and the desire to help buyers and sellers with their real estate needs.

He can be reached at 789-9890 or at home, 747-4878.

Stearns & Yerrall In Angel Tree Campaign

Stearns & Yerrall Realtors, Inc. is pleased to announce its participation in the 1994 Angel and Candle Tree Campaign.

From November 1st through December 15th, Stearns & Yerrall will be sponsoring an Angel and Candle Tree in each of its five locations:

Agawam - 170 Main Street
Longmeadow - 153 Longmeadow Street
Springfield - 725 Sumner Avenue
Westfield - 48 Court Street
Wilbraham - One Crane Park Drive

Stearns & Yerrall agents and employees, as well as the general public, are invited to register for an angel or candle at any Stearns & Yerrall location. Once registered, registrants will receive the name and age of a child to purchase a holiday gift for. The gift will need to be gift-wrapped with the child's name and designated number on the package, and brought back to the appropriate Stearns & Yerrall office.

The Channukah and Christmas gifts will be distributed to Jewish Family Services, Brightside for Children, and The Salvation Army.

Join Stearns & Yerrall in the gift of giving this holiday season! Stearns & Yerrall office hours are Monday through Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and Sundays, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

For further details, please contact Susan Liebman, Committee Chairperson, at (413) 567-3361.

RAYMOND ROSE - from Page 38...

you?) one-half hour earlier than normal for two to three weeks. If, after that time, you still feel good throughout the day, try setting the alarm clock another half hour earlier. If you can add hours to your week, think of how happy you would be.

Buy a computer ... When I bought my first computer in 1989, I wasn't really sure what I would do with it, but I did know that it would turn into an important part of my life. Today, we have two full computer systems in our house, and "I can't live without them." Take a Sunday afternoon, and go out to investigate what computers can do for you.

Buy a cordless phone ... you can move around and do other chores while shooting the breeze.

These are just several of the dozens of areas that have helped me save/make time. If you're as fortunate as I am to have additional time available, the key is to then spend this time doing things that make you happy. As an incentive, make a list of what you want to do with this new found time, and then follow through.

NEWS & NOTES**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, BARBARA!**

Check your smoke detectors this weekend ... Several years ago, I got into the habit of checking my smoke detectors every time I changed my clocks. I suggest that you get into the same habit ... it can save your life.

REAL ESTATE - from Page 38...

Install low-pile carpeting with thin padding. This will allow the resident to more easily operate a wheelchair. This adjustment will not only prevent frustration, it will be essential in the case of an emergency (such as a fire or flood) when the homeowner would need to move and exit the house very quickly.

Install chair-height electrical controls and outlets. Chair height is defined as the distance which a person using a wheelchair can reach. Using a front approach, chair height is approximately 48 inches; using a parallel approach, chair height is approximately 54 inches.

Create a level entryway or install a ramp with an entry-level landing for easy door opening. Most people with disabilities live much more independent, comfortable lives when they are able to come and go from their homes without assistance. For this reason, a home with a ground-level or two-step entrance is ideal for simplified entry and exit. However, a one- or two-step entrance clear of any obstructions such as foliage or planters should accept a ramp with a

mild slope (one inch in height per 12 inches in length) with relative ease.

Modify the kitchen area and appliances to make them more "wheelchair friendly." Install a front control range or countertop range to simplify cooking. Install a side-by-side, dispenser type refrigerator that will eliminate the need for a difficult-to-reach top freezer compartment. Lower countertops and modify counter and cupboard space to include pull-out cutting boards. A U- or L-shaped kitchen will accommodate a wheelchair better than a kitchen with an "island" or built-in features that might present obstacles.

For more information on "barrier-free" living and accessible housing, call the National Easter Seal Society toll-free at 1-800-875-4663.

CENTURY 21 Real Estate Corporation, in conjunction with Easter Seals, has produced an "Easy Access For Easier Living" checklist that answers additional questions for concerned homebuyers or renters. To obtain this pamphlet, call your local CENTURY 21 Office.



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For Your Health

Health Expo Again Gains Much Praise At Senior Center

by Peggy Shoemaker
Advertiser News Feature Writer

"This was the best Health Expo we've ever had," stated Pauline Mercadante, referring to the public health fair attended by hundreds of persons on October 4th at the Agawam Senior Center.

In a recent interview, Mrs. Mercadante (the deputy director of the Agawam Senior Center) said, "This is my seventh year directing the health fair. We can't make it bigger because we are limited with space, but we can improve the quality and that is what we are doing."

Approximately 30 health providers were on hand to give demonstrations, provide written information, and discuss their specialty with those who attended. Persons attending could have diabetes, vision, or hearing tests. One might choose a skin analysis, a massage to relieve stress or blood pressure, or a checking of hands, feet, and posture.

"I feel that one reason the Expo was better this year is that health providers are putting more into it," Mrs. Mercadante said. "They are setting up more colorful and wonderful displays. One could see a model of a heart and what a pound of fat looks like."

A Cheery And Festive Atmosphere

Despite the serious purpose of the event, the Council on Aging sought to present a cheery, festive atmosphere with food and drinks available. Priscilla Magagnoli (performing as "Magpie the Clown") passed out balloons. Flower arrangements were by Mary Cook of Agawam Flowers on Main Street, and there were many door prizes that included gift certificates, ceramics, and wall decorations.

Resident Linda Galarneau represented Springfield Senior Services with a demonstration and discussion of healthful foods. She also provided free food samples. Mrs. Galarneau is a member of the Agawam School Committee.

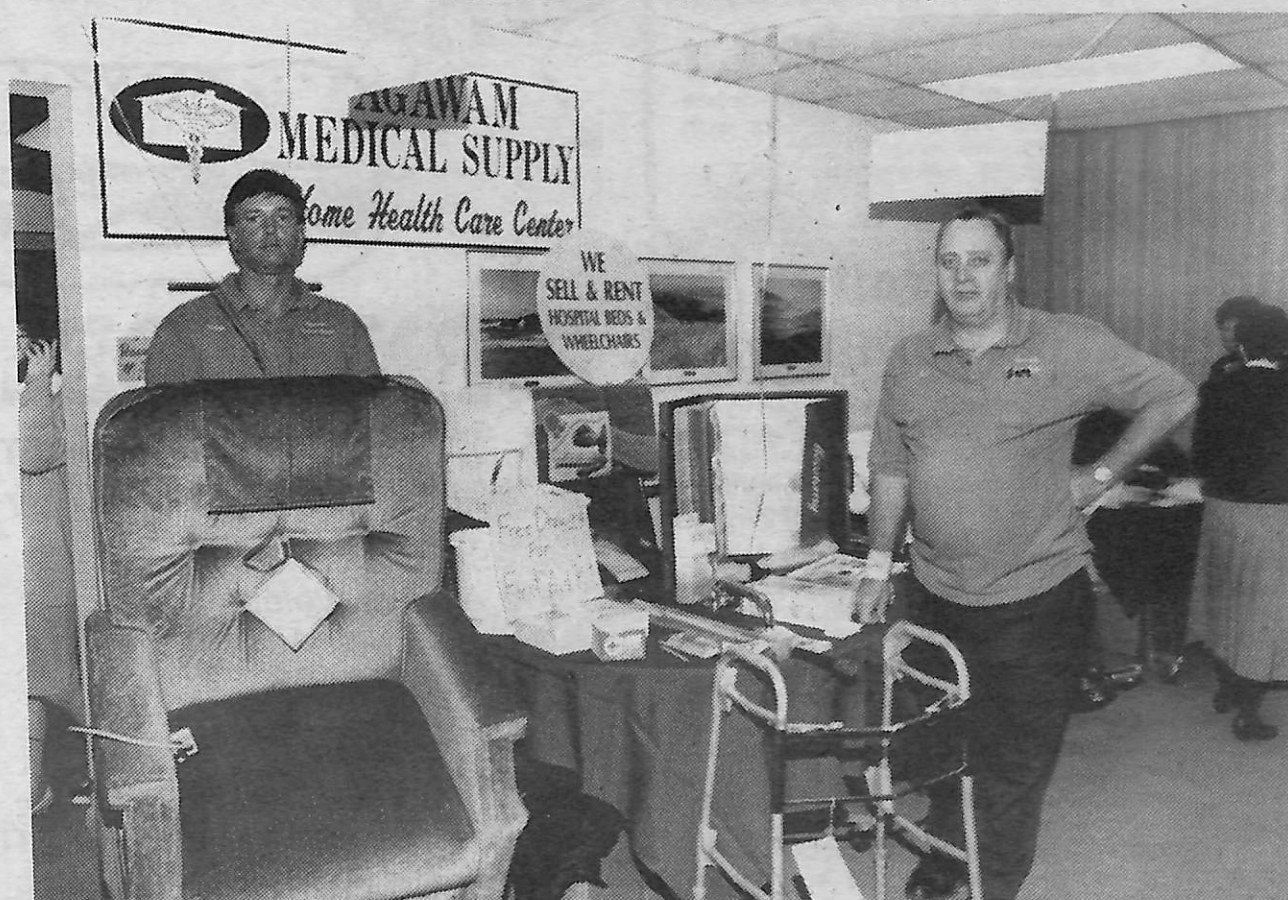
Special chairs and other devices to aid the handicapped were shown by Dean Saracino of Agawam Medical Equipment on Main Street, Agawam Center. Information on services provided by the Agawam Senior Center included Friendly Visitors, Meals on Wheels, volunteering, and transportation of the elderly and handicapped.

Those attending could avail themselves of health tests without charge or at minimum fees. Health care providers and the reported number of persons they serviced included the Agawam Health Department, 53 blood sugar screenings for diabetes; American Cancer Society, Holyoke, 42 skin analyses; American Heart Association, Holyoke, offered a heart quiz and information on the cardiovascular system and stroke, and a visual cross-section of an artery; the Arthritis Foundation of Springfield and Arthritis Treatment Center did examinations of hands and joints and

SEE HEALTH EXPO - Page 41...



REPRESENTING COUNTRY ESTATES of Agawam at the Health Expo at the Agawam Senior Center were Jennifer Rosene and Gina Blackie. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



BRIAN MCGAN and BOB TAYLOR represented Agawam Medical Supply at the Health Expo at the Agawam Senior Center. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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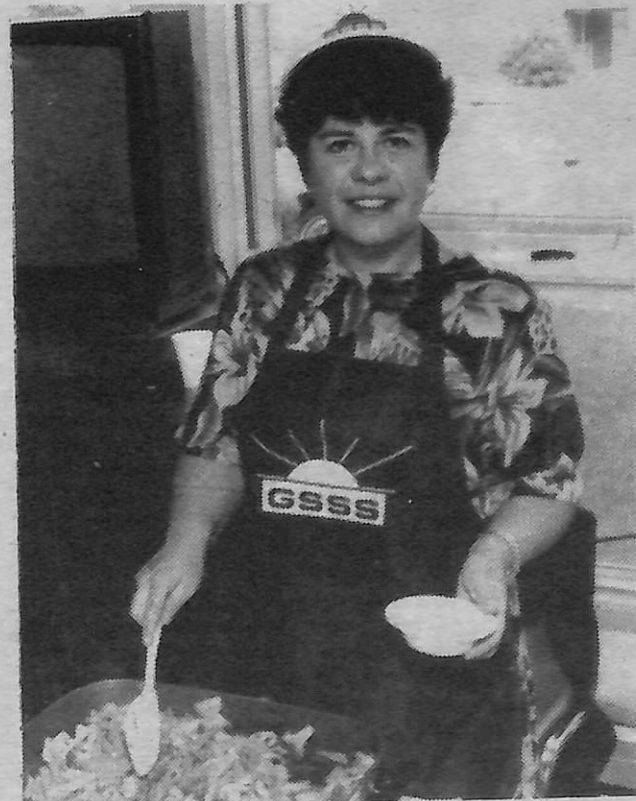
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For Your Health - continued...



IN PHOTO LEFT, Janice Canegallo and Maggie Gauthier represented the Sisters of Providence Health Systems at the Agawam Senior Center's Health Expo; IN PHOTO RIGHT, Dr. Penny Lamhut and Elaine Formica represented Genesis Center for Health & Rehab. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



AGAWAM RESIDENT LINDA GALARNEAU represented Springfield Senior Services with tips on healthy cooking at the Health Expo at the Agawam Senior Center. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

HEALTH EXPO - from Page 40...

provided health information; and the Frances Kelly Massage Therapy Association of Agawam did 38, 10-minute massages.

Others included Home Care PRN, Springfield, blood pressure screenings and health information; Interim Health Care of Springfield, individual therapy demonstration for hands; Nynex Center for Individuals With Disabilities, information on equipment for individuals with disabilities; Senior Class at Baystate Medical Center, blood pressure screenings; Pioneer Valley Visiting Nurses, health information; and S.H.I.N.E. (Serving Health Information Needs of Elders), information on Medicare and an update on supplemental insurance.

Additional Health Care Participants

Also on hand were Noble Hospital of Westfield, 74 screenings for cholesterol and lead in children; Providence Hospital and Sisters of Providence Care Centers of Holyoke, pulmonary screenings; and Mercy Hospital Welden Hearing Mobile Clinic, 18 hearing tests.

Mercy Hospital and Sisters of Providence Care Centers provided information on incontinence,

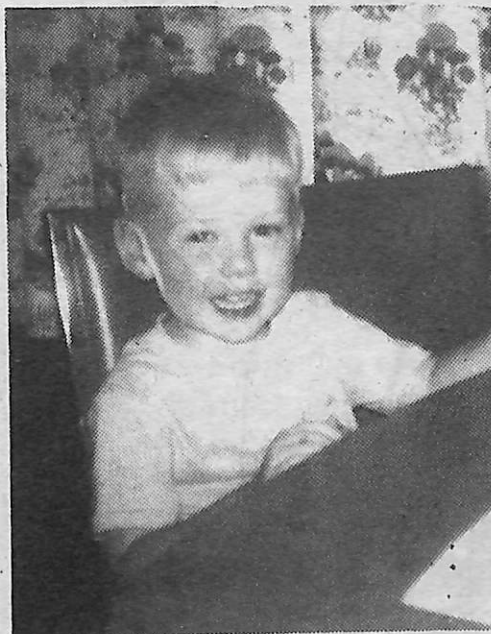
and the Care Center gave information on women's health and did blood pressures.

Nursing homes participating were Country Estates of Agawam, a program on posture; Heritage Hall, Agawam, medication checks; Riverdale Gardens Nursing Home, West Springfield, health information; and Wernick Adult Day Health Center at the Jewish Nursing Home, Longmeadow, information on adult day health care.

Doctors participating were Michael J. Boxan, DC, who did spinal/posture screenings and consultations; Benjamin Dickert, DPM, 28 foot screenings; Penny Lamhut, MD, Geriatrician from Genesis Center for Health and Rehabilitation, blood pressures; David Pierangelo, MD, arthritis screenings; and James Rosenthal, 35 eye tests.

Citing Mrs. Mercadante for what he termed "a monumental job of getting all these health services together," Richard Mundo, director of the Agawam Senior Center, told us, "Anytime you get 500 people to something like this, I think we have done a good job for the community." He added that if anyone has suggestions for next year's Health Expo, they should submit them to the Senior Center.

Happy 16th, Bruce!



Love,
Mom, Jack and Brian

Barbara Belliveau, M.T.

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For Your Health - continued...

Food for Thought

by Nancy Dell
Registered Dietician

Taming A Candy Monster

It's Halloween Night. Your little ghosts & goblins fly home with a bagful of sweet treats and start to gobble it all down! What's a parent to do when a child wants to eat only "junk"? Taming a candy monster or a "junk food junkie" is difficult and frustrating. But these strategies may help.

- Before Halloween, you and your child can decide together where candy will be stored and how much can be devoured each day.

- Your child may fear that mom, dad, brother, or sister will dig into his or her candy stash. So put your child's name on the trick-or-treat bag and let him or her share with family members as desired.

- Serve candy along with more nutritious snacks. Wash down a chocolate bar with milk, and candy corn with a cup of juice.

- Avoid battles over candy and using sweets as a pacifier, reward, or punishment. In the long run, these tricks give emotional value to sweets and make them more desirable than nutritious foods.

Most of the year, parents and caregivers are "gatekeepers," controlling what foods come into the house. So you can buy only those foods you want your child to eat.

But at Halloween, devilish treats invade your home, like it or not. If you can't tame your candy monster, don't worry. Indulging in Halloween treats for a few days will have little impact on your child's overall health and nutrition.

Some Suggested Treats...

The American Academy of Pediatrics now suggests children over age two years follow a lowfat diet. So satisfy your trick-or-treaters' sweet tooth with these lowfat candies. Just make sure all vampires, witches, and other little creatures faithfully brush their fangs.

Smartees, Good & Plenty, Skittles, Gum, Hot Tamales, Lollipops, Necco Wafers, Chuckles, Licorice, Bonkers, Lifesavers, Jelly Beans, Tootsie Pops.

"Jail And Bail" For American Cancer Soc.

Southwick: What do Nora Marks, Fred Hanks, Serena Fuller, and Georgio Karathanasopoulos have in common? They, along with other Southwick and Westfield personalities, will all be in "jail" on November 1st and 2nd from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. both days.

Not to worry, they are not going to a "real" jail. As participants in the American Cancer Society's Jail and Bail, they'll be raising money for the fight against cancer. Actually, all of these Southwick business people are committee members planning the second Annual Jail and Bail.

For a \$25 fee, a real off-duty police officer will go to the office or home of the person you would like arrested.

Their participation is strictly voluntary. If they agree, they will be led away in handcuffs to the American Cancer Society's jail at Big E's Supermarket in Southwick.

After the bail is set, the prisoners are given one hour to raise bail by calling friends and family to make pledges to the American Cancer Society.

All profits from Jail and Bail will go toward funding cancer research, service to cancer patients, and lifesaving educational programs of the American Cancer Society.

If you're interested in having someone arrested, call (413) 536-2255.

PLEASE remember that our deadline is Tuesday at noon, but we appreciate those who bring in their copy on Monday.

Agawam Health Dept. Slates Influenza Clinics

The Agawam Health Department has scheduled an influenza clinic at the Senior Center on Wright Street for Wednesday, November 9, 1994, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Influenza vaccine will be administered free of charge to persons 65 years of age and over or if you have chronic conditions such as: heart disease, asthma, emphysema, bronchitis, chronic kidney disease, or diabetes.

There will also be a clinic at Pheasant Hill Village, Pheasant Hill Drive, Feeding Hills, on Tuesday, November 15, 1994, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., and at Danahy Schoolhouse on Maple Street on Tuesday, November 22, 1994, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Chronic Pain Support At Mercy Hospital

A Chronic Pain Support Group for sufferers, their families, and friends is forming at Mercy Hospital.

An organizational meeting will be conducted November 2nd, 12:30-2:00 p.m., in the Breck Room of the Deliso Conference Center at the hospital. This community service is offered free of charge.

The group will be led by William Flanagan, M.A., M.Ed., Co-Director of Pain and Stress Management Associates of West Springfield. Flanagan and his partner, Gerald Steinberg, M.D., specialize in the new field of surface EMG biofeedback to treat chronic or acute soft tissue pain disorders. Flanagan will discuss new technologies, theories, and treatments for chronic pain.

For more information, call Peg Valley, group coordinator, at (413) 748-7476.

Breast Cancer Support At Mercy Hospital

The Breast Cancer Support Group, sponsored by the Women's Pavilion at Mercy Hospital, will meet November 1st and 15th, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the Deliso Conference Center.

The group, which meets the first and third Tuesday of each month, is open to women who have experienced mastectomy and other breast surgery, or who have been diagnosed as having breast cancer. Family and close friends of the patient are welcome to attend and share their experiences and concerns.

For more information, call (413) 748-9080.

Cancer Screening At Noble Hospital

Four city doctors experienced in the treatment of cancer will participate in a cancer screening and prevention program at Noble Hospital on Thursday, November 3rd at 7:00 p.m.

Free screening kits for bladder cancer and colorectal cancer will be available.

The program, which will take place in the hospital's Auditorium A, will be moderated by Dr. Philip Glynn, an internal medicine and oncology specialist and co-chairman of Noble's Cancer Committee. Topics will include the benefits of screening and general information about five types of cancer: skin, prostate, bladder, breast, and colorectal.

The program will include presentations by Dr. Francis Horrigan, an internist and gastroenterologist who will discuss colorectal cancer, Dr. Jules Levey, a surgeon who will address the subject of breast cancer, Dr. Robert White, a urologist and expert on prostate cancer and bladder cancer, and Dr. Gary Russolillo, a plastic and reconstructive surgeon who treats skin cancer.

A question and answer period will be included in the program which is free and open to the public. Registration is necessary as seating is limited.

To register, call Noble Hospital's HealthBEAT at 568-BEAT (2328).

Noble Hospital Has Stroke Support Group

Noble Hospital will host support groups for stroke patients and their families. Karen Fagan, LICSW, clinical social worker at the Bronson Rehabilitation Center at Noble Hospital, will lead the groups which usually meet twice each month.

During the month of November, meetings for stroke patients will take place on Wednesday, November 2nd and 16th, at 5:30 p.m., and meetings for families of stroke patients will take place on Wednesday, November 9th and 23rd, at 5:30 p.m.

Both groups will meet in the Bronson Dining Room where refreshments will be served. For more information or to register for the free support group, call Karen Fagan at 572-5151.



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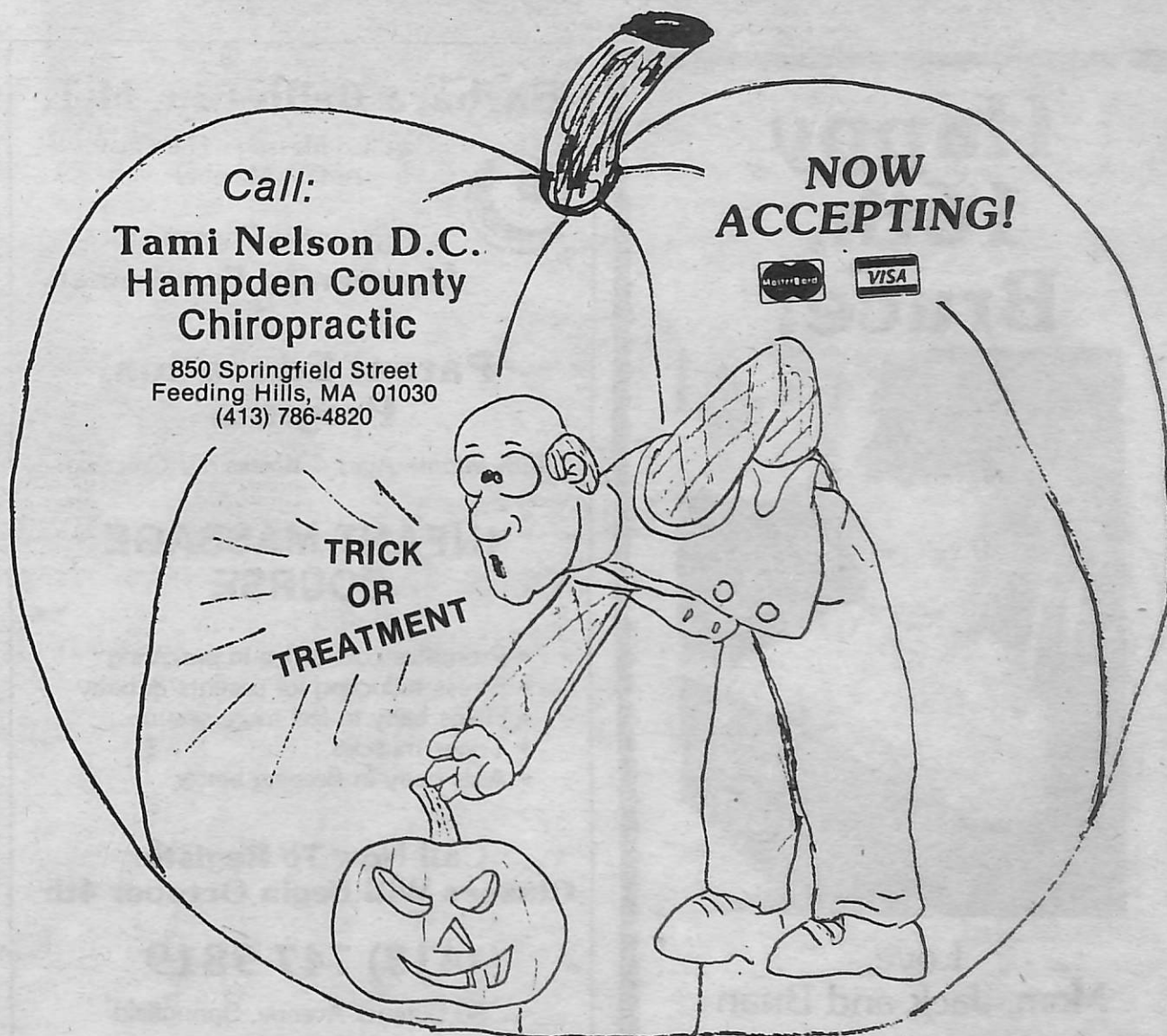
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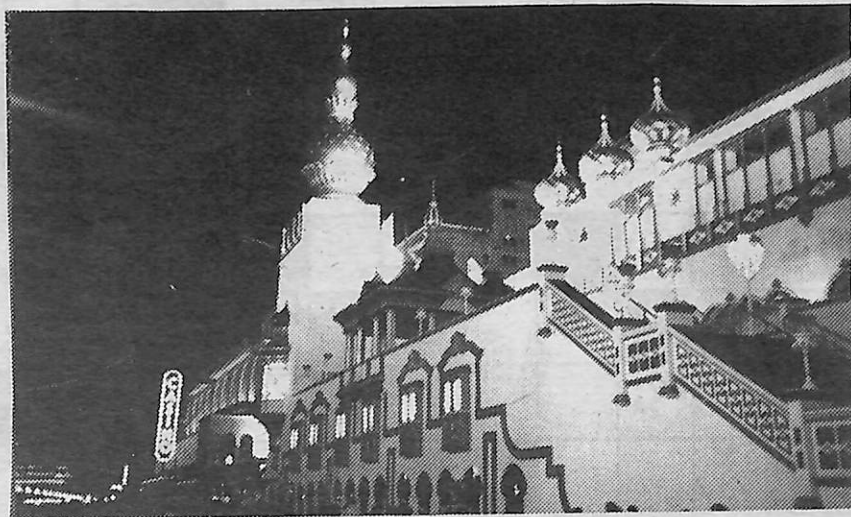
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Vote No On Question 11

Last Week's Solution...

C	A	R	E	D	O	M	S	H	A	S	M	E	W		
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ACROSS

- 1 Fence parts
6 Mr. All
10 Halve
15 Ms. Lauder
16 Sporting palace
18 "Papa Doc's" land
19 Unattainable dream
21 Sgt. York
22 Defensive weapon (abbr.)
23 It's to a poet
24 Glossy
26 Estimate for short
27 Obese
28 "— Willie Winkle"
29 Atoll area
31 Arthur of tennis
34 Meadowlands
36 Undress
39 Martin of song
40 Complete
41 Layer
42 Region
43 Tree leakage
44 Fast Atlantic flyer
45 "Fleur de —"
46 Fall flower
47 Attention-getting sound
49 Waste away
51 School subject (abbr.)
52 Distinctive manner
54 Joke with
55 Sandpiper
57 Morning moisture
60 Food order
61 Ted Kennedy for one
62 Drinkers' night-mares
63 Retain
64 "— go"
66 "The — is yet to come"
67 Ogled
68 "— sheltered life"
69 "Hue and —"
70 Vigoda
72 Costello
74 Musical drama
76 Ike's WWII command
77 "Stuck in a —"
80 "Odd Couple's" Madison

DOWN

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86 Watts power
87 "— bell" (idea)
88 "When — done"
89 Writer Best
90 Guide
1 Agents for short
2 Korea's continent
3 Part of a shopping list
4 Hawaiian garland
5 "— message"
6 Scrooge expletives
7 "You — my sunshine"
8 Good Queens?
9 Body joint
10 Shivers
11 Buddy
12 "Goodtime Charlie's" credo
13 It's - done properly
14 Hue
17 Vote word
20 Names
25 "— go braugh"
27 Swamp
28 Money roll
30 Expunge
31 Sale announcements
32 Red or Dead
33 "Nothing bothers me" type guy
35 Went in
36 Arid regions
37 "Busy as a —"
38 Hearing organ
41 Stashed away
44 Female saint
45 Softball pitch
46 Ripen
48 Skiing area
50 "— Tin-Tin"
52 Streets - abbr.
53 Little one
56 Manored land
58 Actress Arden
59 Marry
61 Break in two
62 Actress Susan
63 Observe
65 Worships
66 Made like a mule

MEET THE MASTER - by Dick Mastroianni

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- 69 Shipping container
71 Wild pigs
72 "That's a — off my mind"
73 Greek peak
75 Asner et al
76 Bombeck

- 77 Descartes
78 Prod
79 Ivan was one
81 French friend
83 Dancer Dailey
84 Wrestlers' pad

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Arts

This Week At THE MOVIES

by Christine Plesyk
Advertiser News Staff

—The Specialist

If you like a lot of action, or if pyrotechnics and special effects give you a vicarious thrill, the new Sly Stallone film is for you, for *The Specialist* is long on thrills and short on storyline.

Stallone plays a CIA trained assassin, a "specialist," who can be contacted through elaborate communications procedures and who never meets his employer. He's an unseen nemesis who picks and chooses who he's going to kill or (in this case) avenge.

Enter Sharon Stone, a beautiful woman out to avenge the murders of her parents years before by the mob. She contacts our hero, who reluctantly takes on her case since he doesn't want to see her get "iced" doing the job herself.

Enter James Woods as the mob henchman and executioner charged with protecting the "family" and cutting down Stallone.

Woods is chillingly cold-blooded and turns in a fine performance; Stone is, well, Stone, and she's beautiful but not particularly bright. Stallone never changes ... this film just gives him one more chance to flex his well-oiled muscles, and he leaps from one crisis to another, leaving a trail of death and devastation behind. There's a steamy love scene between Stone and Stallone, and there's a token cat he rescues to prove he has a soft spot.

Other than that, this film wanders from token scene to total destruction; and, while the latter looks great, it takes more than spectacles to make a good adventure. Plot helps.

—Only You

Marisa Tomei and Robert Downey Jr. pair up as would-be lovers in *Only You*, a lightweight romance that resembles last year's *Sleepless in Seattle* with its globetrotting theme and occasional reliance on old films of great sentiment. *Sleepless* and *An Affair To Remember*; this one delves into *South Pacific* (the Pinza/Martin version).

Tomei is a sweet young thing about to marry a man who is not completely the stuff her dreams are made of; he's a nice guy, but it seems that years ago an Ouiji board printed out that Damon Bradley was her soulmate. A fortune teller echoed that name in her teenage years, and she's always clung to this nebulous name with unrelenting hope.

When Damon Bradley calls looking for his fiancée and says he's on his way to Europe, she rushes to the airport in her wedding gown and a black leather jacket, trying to intercept him. She fails, due in part to an unsympathetic and unromantic airport staff.

Nonetheless, she sets out for Italy in quest of Damon and stumbles over Downey, who masquerades as the elusive Damon because he has fallen instantly in love with Tomei. Got it?

Such is the stuff bad sitcoms are made of, but what this film has is a charming couple who play cute roles against some spectacular settings in Venice and throughout Italy. The score isn't half bad, either.

Only You is the kind of lightweight comedy-romance that would have made perfect drive-in movie viewing 30 years ago. You might want to catch it on HBO on a snowy winter night instead.

The Merely Players Set Mystery Dinner At Oaks Banquet House

On Saturday, November 5th, "The Merely Players" will be presenting a "Mystery Dinner Theatre" at 7:30 p.m. at the Oaks Banquet House, Suffield Street, Route 75, Agawam. All proceeds from the dinner-show will benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Western Massachusetts.

The theme of the "Mystery Theatre" will be a political fundraiser for "Johnathon Millard," but during the evening a "murder" will occur and you must help solve it.

The evening includes dinner, the "Mystery Theatre" show, and dancing. Tickets are \$30 per person. Tables may be reserved for parties of eight to 10 persons. To reserve tickets, call the Make-A-Wish office at (413) 733-9474 or (800) 873-9474.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation of Western Massachusetts is a non-profit, tax exempt organization that works to grant the special wish of children ages 2½ to 17 who have been diagnosed as having a terminal or life-threatening condition.

For further information, contact Mr. Richard Verville, Executive Director of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Western Massachusetts, at (413) 733-9474 or (800) 873-9474.

St. Martha's Players To Present Annie Beginning Nov. 4th

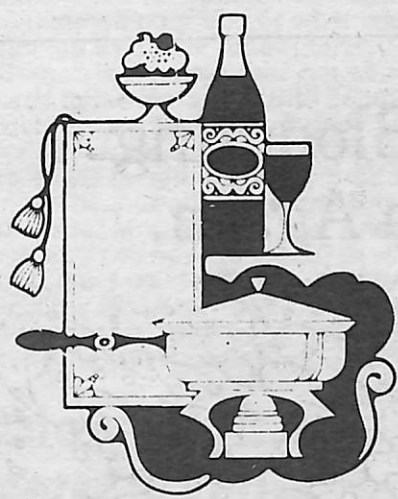
St. Martha Players of Enfield will present the musical *Annie*. Show dates are November 4th, 5th, 6th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 18th, and 19th.

Friday and Saturday performances will start at 8:00 p.m. Sunday matinee performances will be at 2:00 p.m.

For tickets, call the Players' new number, 203-745-6368.

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by Louis Pisano

Recent Releases 5

Here comes a few more newer movies that are available in the "New Releases" section of your local video store. As always, these are a motley bunch ranging from failure to triumph.

Happy hunting, guys!

* *The Crow*

Director: Alex Proyas. 1994. Rated R. 1 hour and 57 minutes. Starring: Brandon Lee, Ernie Hudson, and Michael Wincott.

Anyone who enjoys watching extreme violence within a story that underscores the wretched slime of our world will love *The Crow*. The rest of us, in the meantime, who normally enjoy an awe-inspiring film will be forced to see this film believing it was something worth experiencing. My advice—I've seen it with the same assumptions and cannot believe the depression this film conveys.

The film centers around a murdered couple. The man comes back via a crow, paints his face, and avenges his and his lover's deaths by hunting down his killers. It's a very depressive and downright disturbing copy of *Batman*, and the nauseating images it contains are shown in just the perfect timing to make you regret watching.

Brandon Lee did his best, but as the weak title character, his feathers were definitely in an uproar. This crow should've flown the coop and taken off! 1/2 STAR. (17 years and up.)

* *My Father, The Hero*

Director: Steve Miner. 1994. Rated PG. 1 hour and 30 minutes. Starring: Gerard Depardieu, Katherine Heigl, Dalton James, Lauren Hutton, and Faith Prince.

This is probably one of the most ludicrous tales to hit the screen in a while. A young girl (very young - 14 years) attempts to impress a boy by pretending that her father is her lover. Gerard Depardieu plays the title role as best as he can,

but he just can't save this weak and claustrophobic entry from dying early on.

Much of the film attempts to get its laughs from the exploits of the father-daughter duo during the too-involved scenes of Depardieu sacrificing it all (even risking life and limb) for his daughter's somewhat important goal.

As with a story of this type, the initial fibs turn into major misrepresentations of the truth. This is no more complex than your average television sitcom. Sitcoms are nice, but not when they're two hours long!

I just hope there are no sequels planned because *My Father, The Hero* was tolerable, but another would probably be called *My Father, The Bore*. 1 1/2 STARS. (15 years and up.)

* *Batman: Mask Of The Phantasm*

Animated. 1993. Rated PG. 1 hour and 17 minutes. Voices: Kevin Conroy, Mark Hamill, Dana Delany, Hart Bochner, and Abe Vigoda.

The Dark Knight returns to pound evildoers into oblivion. No, it's not *Batman III*; it's not even live-action.

It's a cartoon inspired by the success of the Fox network's A-1 example of realistic animation ... *Batman: The Animated Series*. Rest assured, you won't be dissatisfied with the phenomenally drawn characters.

The film starts out relatively strong and ends relatively strong; it's what's in-between that is disturbing. After the ghastly images of the Phantasm, we are suddenly lost in a huge romantic subplot about Bruce Wayne (a.k.a. Batsy). This doesn't really affect the film, it's just that it makes you yawn for the action scenes.

The surprise inclusion of another Batman adversary proves fruitful, for most of the film's impact and best animated sequences not only involve these action-packed scenes, but especially those involving the infamous villain The Joker.

As a whole, however, I beg to differ and WILL state that this *Batman* is not too violent for kids (not any more violent than Looney Toons). The slow-moving midsection of this animated feature takes away from the potential, but then again, the action scenes reward you for your patience. 3 STARS. (14 years and up.)

Agawam Cultural Council Presenting "First Friday" Program Nov. 4th

The Agawam Cultural Council is presenting for their November "First Friday Series" an evening of entertainment with The New Valley Singers. This well known singing group will be performing at the Agawam Public Library on Friday, November 4th at 7:30 p.m.

The New Valley Singers are beginning their 32nd year and are under the direction of Nikki Stoia. Ms. Stoia is a music instructor at the University of Massachusetts and is also the accompanist of the Springfield Symphony Chorus.

The group comprises 30 to 40 members ranging

in age from 13 to 65. The New Valley Singers perform pops, Broadway, and classical music. They have performed extensively in the Western Massachusetts area.

On Friday, November 4th, they will be presenting "Disney - Not For Children Only," which has been carefully staged for all ages.

All performances in the First Friday Series are free and open to the public, and the entire series is funded by the Agawam Cultural Council through a grant from the Mass. Cultural Council.

Artist Sally A. Johnson To Give Lecture At Capt. Leonard House

Sally Ann Johnson, noted area artist, will be giving a lecture and "hands on" demonstration on the art of paper embossing at the Captain Leonard House, Main Street, Agawam on Wednesday, November 2nd from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

This will be the third professional demonstration by an area artist sponsored by the Agawam Community Artists and the Agawam Cultural Council.

Ms. Johnson is inviting all those interested in participating in the "hands on" demonstration to bring an item that is durable and thin for use in creating a finished art project to bring home. Agawam Community Artists asks that a donation of \$1 be given by individuals who take home their projects to cover the cost of materials.

Refreshments will be served and interested parties are encouraged to meet other A.C.A. members.

Anyone interested in the above artist, presentation, or membership in the Agawam Community Artists is encouraged to attend the lecture/demonstration or call DeBorah A. Allen at 786-6087.

Membership in the A.C.A. is not necessary and the lecture by Ms. Johnson is free of charge.

Community Artists Plan Art Exhibit For Agawam Library

Agawam Community Artists, under the auspices of the Agawam Cultural Council, will be sponsoring their third annual art exhibition at the Agawam Community Room. The show will be held in the Agawam Library on Cooper Street in Agawam on Friday, October 28th from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. and Saturday, October 29th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

There will be a "Meet the Artist" reception complete with refreshments at 6:30 p.m. Friday night.

The general public, professional artists and artisans, students, and other interested parties are encouraged to attend. Admission is free.

Agawam Community Artists is an organization of artists, artisans, and people who are interested in the fine arts. They meet the first Wednesday of each month and sponsor artistic enrichment programs monthly as a public service and educational source for those people appreciate the arts.

For information on the show, membership, or the monthly presentations, please contact DeBorah A. Allen at 786-6087.

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Education

AHS Honor Student Tutoring Spanish Student At Robinson Park

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

For the students in Mary Ann Czerpak's afternoon kindergarten session at Robinson Park School, Friday means gathering in a circle for News Time sharing and a visit from Agawam High School junior Selena Machia.

Mrs. Czerpak said Selena usually arrives as the class is halfway around the circle, just in time to translate for Costa Rican born student Jose Alberto Gomez.

"I try to time it so that Selena is here by the time we get to Jose Alberto," Mrs. Czerpak said.

The Gomez family arrived in Agawam in August and will be living here for two years. Tobias Gomez is enrolled in the master's program at Springfield College.

For the past five years, Gomez has been a Physical Education teacher at Escuela de la Region Tropical Humeda, an agricultural college located two hours from the capitol city of San Jose.

When he received a full scholarship to study health practice, he chose Springfield College. "This is the best university for what he wants to study," Mrs. Gomez said.

A dental assistant studying to become a dentist in Costa Rica, Mrs. Gomez agreed to put her studies on hold for two years to come to the United States with her husband, and their two children, five year-old Jose Alberto and three year-old Anna Maria.

Difficult Decision

"It was a difficult decision to make, but we were thinking of our son. It's a good age for him to come here and learn English," Mrs. Gomez said.

Sharing a love of reading and a commitment to learning, they are all working on their English together. "It is very clear in the children's minds that we're here to study and that's good," Mrs. Gomez said.

Recruited by AHS Spanish teacher and AFS (American Intercultural Exchange Program) student advisor Mary Ellen Bruce, Selena spends two afternoons each week interpreting lessons and helping Jose Alberto develop the English language skills necessary for success in school.

Never expecting the school system to provide her son with a tutor, Mrs. Gomez said, "I feel so good about the school. They're really trying to help Jose Alberto learn English."

While she felt confident that Jose Alberto was able to understand much of what was being said by watching what the other children were doing, Mrs. Gomez is relieved that her son can now fit the words to the actions. "With Selena, he's learning much faster," Mrs. Gomez said.

Enrolled in a pre-school program, Anna Maria is always eager to tell her older brother about her day and to hear about his, especially on the days Selena visits. Mrs. Gomez said Anna Maria tells her brother, "You have to teach me what Selena is teaching you. I want to know all the words."

This is the first time the children have attended separate schools. "It's good for them to have different friends and experiences," Mrs. Gomez said.

"Now they have different things to tell each other at the end of the day."

Already fluent in Spanish, Selena spent most of her summer living with a family in Cuenca, Ecuador, as part of an AFS Exchange Program. Entering her fourth year studying the language, Selena said her Spanish improved dramatically over the summer.

Returning each week to the room she first knew as a kindergarten student, Selena said she was willing to continue as Jose Alberto's tutor as long as she was needed.

A Chance To Practice Spanish

"I enjoy working with Jose Alberto and I love speaking Spanish with a native speaker. This gives me a chance to practice my Spanish," Selena said. "And being here with the little kids is so much fun."

Using activities provided by (English as a Second Language) teacher Susan Mutti, Selena works with Jose Alberto on counting, shapes, colors, and the English alphabet.

"He catches on fast," Selena said. "He's really smart."

"It makes him feel good when he hears Selena say he is doing a good job," Mrs. Gomez said.

Mrs. Czerpak said that while Jose Alberto doesn't speak English, "He definitely understands. His parents practice with him at home. I think he's very bright. He has no problem following directions on all our projects."

Observing the first meeting between Jose Alberto and Selena, Mrs. Mutti said, "You could just see the tension drain from Jose Alberto as they began babbling away together in Spanish. Selena is just fantastic. She has a natural way with children. (Without coaching) she just knew to give him some English words with the Spanish."

Impressed with Selena's work as a tutor, Mrs. Mutti said that while she was not aware of Selena's plans for the future, there is a career for Selena as a teacher of English as a Second Language.

"We need good people in the field," Mrs. Mutti said.

As a two-time host sister to foreign exchange students in the AFS Program, Selena was well aware of the problems confronting non-native English speakers when she accepted the challenge of working with Jose Alberto.

In addition to enjoying helping Jose Alberto gain English language skills, Selena welcomes the chance to use her Spanish.

"I love speaking Spanish," Selena said.

Selena is interested in pursuing a career in international business that focuses on using her language skills as a translator.

"I hope I'll be able to travel and use my Spanish," Selena said. "I'm interested in attending Boston College and hope to be able to study abroad for a semester."

Mrs. Gomez said the family has received a warm welcome and people have been friendly. Like most kindergarten parents, the newcomers



AGAWAM HIGH JUNIOR SELENA MACHIA has been tutoring five year-old Costa Rican native Jose Alberto Gomez, who recently entered Robinson Park School. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

are meeting the other moms and dads for the first time at the bus stop.

"We have lots of offers of help. And that's wonderful when you don't know anybody," Mrs. Gomez said.

Looking Forward To Snow

Used to a tropical climate requiring only a thin jacket, even during the winter, the family is looking forward to their first experience with snow. Relatives back home in Costa Rica are already planning to visit during the winter for a reversal of the usual tourist pattern bringing North Americans to their country for a winter get-away.

"We're a really close knit family," Mrs. Gomez said. "We're always writing letters and sending faxes."

With a little help from their new friends, the Gomez family is settling in and looking forward to celebrating Halloween.

Junior High PTO Meets; Events Set For November

The October P.T.O. meeting of Agawam Junior High School was held on Monday, October 17th at 7:30 p.m. There were 10 people in attendance.

Helen Manning will be finishing up the fundraiser. Once again this year, the students did a great job selling.

Conference Night will be held on November 21st. This is by appointment only. However, any parent wishing a conference will be asked to contact the Guidance Department at school. Watch *The Agawam Advertiser* for further details regarding Conference Night.

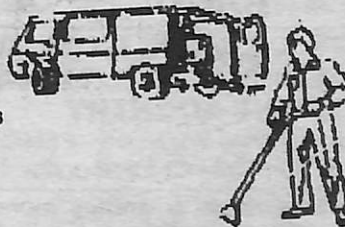
Mr. Costanzi announced that the school had been signed up to participate in a program from the Bank of Boston. This will run from November 11, 1994 until May 31, 1995 and give the school a chance to earn materials or equipment.

It was also announced that the school would participate in two book fairs this year. The first will be held from December 6th-13th. Sue Federico will be looking for help during this fair. The next fair will be held from May 16th-20th.

The next meeting of the P.T.O. will be held on November 28th at 7:30 p.m.

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HENRY L. KOZLOSKI

Former AHS Grad Co-Authors Book

Henry L. Kozloski, a 1988 Agawam High School graduate, is one of four authors of a recently published book entitled "Introduction to SIMAN V and Cinema V," an engineering text on simulation modeling using the SIMAN V computer language.

Simulation modeling has become an essential tool for analyzing a diverse range of systems, including both manufacturing and service systems, as well as ecological and biological systems. SIMAN V is a leading-edge simulation computer language, and Cinema is the animator for the language.

Dr. Jerry Banks, professor at Georgia Institute of Technology (along with Henry and two other authors), have provided a text written primarily for the person new to simulation and new to SIMAN. The book is being published by John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Henry received a Bachelor of Science degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and a Master of Science degree from Georgia Institute of Technology. Presently, he is an industrial and system engineer for NCR, a manufacturer of customized microchips, in Fort Collins, Colorado.

He is the son of Henry and Teresa Kozloski of Meadow Street, Agawam.

AHS Receives Grant To Benefit Students In Special Population

The Agawam High School's Family and Consumer Science Department, formerly known as Home Economics, will be enhanced this year by the recent award made possible through the Perkins-Consumer and Homemaking Education Grant. The Massachusetts Department of Education Competitive Grants Program is made possible with state, federal, and private grant monies.

Through the efforts of Agawam High School teachers Bernadette Conte and Diana Chase, the department will receive \$14,231.

The project, titled "Agawam's Future," will promote the inclusive schooling movement by updating the Family and Consumer Science curriculum. The program will meet the educational and related needs of all special population students enrolled in the established secondary Consumer and Homemaking Education Program.

The implementation of co-teaching will provide Agawam High School students (grades 9-12) with analytical, critical, and decision-making skills. These skills will prove effective in dealing with adult decisions and responsibilities (without prejudice).

The priorities regarding this grant include the improvement and updating of services and activities to meet the needs of the special population, to provide outreach to young women concerning vocational education and employment opportunities, to provide activities to encourage the elimination of sex bias and sex stereotyping, and to ensure that the needs of young women and men for training in careers nontraditional by gender are met.

The award will be used to fund AHS student mediation training, the purchase of two computers and related software, textbooks, and teaching modules. Further allocations will provide reference materials for the AHS Resource Center, speaker stipends, teacher workshops, and substitute teacher pay.

First Time Effort

Mrs. Conte said that she was proud when she heard that the grant was awarded. "This is the first competitive grant that I have written and I'm happy that the high school students will get the opportunity to benefit from Mrs. Chase's and my efforts."



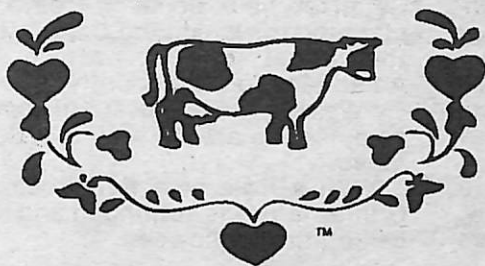
HAPPY ABOUT THE RECENTLY awarded grant for the Family and Consumer Science Dept. at Agawam High are, from left - teacher Elizabeth Prew, Principal Russell Furtado, and teachers and grant writers Bernadette J. Conte and Diana Chase. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Elizabeth Prew, department chairwoman, says that the Agawam Schools have qualified for the grant by having a fully-accredited Family and Consumer Science Department at AHS. Mrs. Chase added that she is especially pleased that this grant has been approved at this time because it promises to enhance the Life Skills course that is being currently taught at AHS.

Bernard Ryder, superintendent of the Agawam Schools, stated that the school district will benefit from this grant because it establishes a needed model for implementing an inclusion program. It also provides new technology for all students.

"The inclusion grant program created by Mrs. Chase and Mrs. Conte," adds Principal Russell Furtado, "is an excellent program for all young women in our high school. The program provides young women with unbiased, non-traditional career information and dispels sex bias and job myths that prevent young women from succeeding," he said.

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The Westfield Theatre Group is a Division of the Westfield Woman's Club
This show is supported in part by the Westfield Arts Council, a local agency; the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency; and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Athlete of the week... Becky Wing Making Mark On AHS Field Hockey

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Any time the Agawam High girls' field hockey team is in action, the chances are good that you'll see a tough, aggressive athlete patrolling the right side of the offense. Her name is Becky Wing. She's a 16 year-old junior. And she took time out recently to talk a little about herself.

Her mom, Deborah, works for the Post Office. Her dad, Gary, is a truck driver. And her brother, Mike, is a freshman at AHS and plays football.

Becky is a talented field hockey player. She has two goals and two assists this year in a game that usually does not see much scoring. She says she took up the game during a gym class and found she liked it. She liked it so much that she went to a field hockey camp to hone her skills.

Recognized Potential Early On

Her soon-to-be varsity coach, Cindy Grieve, saw Becky play and recognized her potential right away. Becky made the varsity in her freshman year and has been an important part of the team ever since.

Like so many of the athletes at AHS, she doesn't limit herself to just one sport. She's a third baseman on the girls' softball team. And like many athletes everywhere, she's superstitious.

"I have to wear number three, no matter what uniform it's on," she laughed. Of course, that's the number on the back of her field hockey jersey. Why number three? We didn't ask.

She likes just about everything school has to offer, including getting good grades, being part of the team, and going out with friends. Her choice in music swings 180 degrees. "I like the Beastie Boys. But I also like classical music and dance music." Then she added, "I definitely don't like country music. It all sounds the same."

Among her dislikes - smoking, drugs, fighting in sports, and bad sportsmanship.

Her favorite food is Chinese. "I especially like it because my boyfriend pays for it," she told us.

Becky is in the high ability program at AHS. "I usually get A's and B's. And I like it because I enjoy learning and putting what I learn to use," she notes.

Her heroes include her coaches in both sports, her parents, and the past captains of the field hockey team.

Looking Forward To Next Season

So far, she's happy with what she's accomplished as a member in good standing with the Brownies. But she foresees much more. She's looking forward to playing on an excellent AHS field hockey team next season. "We'll have a lot of girls returning," Becky says.

Becky is also looking forward to her senior year in 1995-96. "I'll start thinking seriously about getting into college then," she said. She also hopes that being a senior will, hopefully, bring her more respect. She hopes to have more of a leadership role on the field hockey team in 1995.

Becky describes herself as an outgoing person who likes to laugh a lot - someone who likes people.

She also wanted to mention that her favorite movie is "The Little Mermaid." In a way, Becky has that personality - bright, outgoing, and tough. The school and its field hockey team are lucky to have her around for another year.

New Girls' Basketball Team Seeks Players

A new suburban basketball team is currently being formed to compete in the Suburban league as a seventh and eighth grade team. The goal of this team is to meet the needs and abilities of Agawam girls who wish to play basketball at a competitive level.

Should you be interested and wish to have more information, please contact Tom Tierney at 789-1239. A 16-game schedule is being developed, and the season will run from December 1st through March 18th.

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each week for all the
hometown news...*

Fitness First & Oak Ridge Golf Club Join In Membership Promo

Oak Ridge Golf Club and Fitness First Health and Fitness Center in Feeding Hills are pleased to announce a special "Golfer's Only" Fitness membership.

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Call 786-1460 for your appointment today! To qualify for this special offer, bring your valid Oak Ridge Golf Club membership or associate membership card with you when you join.

Hurry! Offer expires November 1, 1994.

AHS GIRLS' SOCCER - from Page 52...

The Importance Of Points

After it was in the record books, Brownie coach Bill O'Brien noted, "Every point we get from here on in is important. We want to go into the tournament with confidence. How we'll end up being seeded will have a lot to do with the outcome of the Ludlow/West Springfield game, and the outcome of our game against Ludlow this Friday night (October 28th)."

Then the coach added, "I think, with some luck, we could be seeded as high as number three and no worse than number six."

This was also somewhat of a bittersweet night. It was O'Brien's last home game as the coach of Agawam girls' soccer. He's calling it quits this year after 13 seasons at the helm.

There might have been a little tear in the corner of his eye when he was asked to sum it all up. "It has been great," he said.

And the coach—many times gruff, many times demanding, but always fair—left it at that.

best local news...

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AHS Boys' Soccer Moving Hard On Tourney Berth

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

It's crunch time for the Agawam High boys' soccer team. They're in a scramble for a playoff berth in the Western Mass. Tournament.

This past week has gone a long way to assuring them of a coveted spot in the post-season. The locals played a big one last Friday night vs. the Holyoke Purple Knights. It was a must game and they came away with a nice 3-0 win.

Actually, the way the thing went reminded me of a scene out of the classic movie, *American Graffiti*. One of the stars, Toad, pulled up at a street light and seemed to want to drag race the guy in the next car.

Toad was feeling confident and cocky because he thought his car was hot. He looked over and said to the other guy, "What do you have?" He was referring to the kid's car. The kid looked over and said with a smirk, "More'n you can handle, dork." With that, Toad proceeded to get his doors blown off.

At presstime, the Brownies had another huge game on tap on Thursday, October 27th, vs. Chicopee Comp. AHS and Comp are tied for the Moriarty Division lead with 12 points apiece. AHS is 5-5-2 (5-6-2 overall) and Comp is 6-6 (7-6 overall).

An AHS win would assure a playoff spot. A loss would mean two more pressure-filled games vs. Pittsfield and conference foe Westfield to close out the season.

But Coach Dwight Northrup is confident his troops can pull it off. They way they've been playing lately seems to indicate the players also believe a playoff berth is just around the corner.

Against Holyoke, AHS scored early at 36:26 as junior midfielder Jeff Rousseau deflected one off the Holyoke goalie. Rousseau's chance came as a result of good and solid passing - a quality the Brownies are displaying more of each game.

The locals got their second score 10 minutes later. This time senior fullback Frank Fila had gotten to the ball before anyone else, right in front of the Purple Knights net. He beat the goalie from 10 feet out.

Agawam's third goal came at 4:17 of the first half. Junior forward Chris Chechile and Mike Domaingue were on a break down field towards the Holyoke goal. The two attackers had beaten everyone but one defender, who was desperately trying to take the ball away from Domaingue.

But the Agawam guy is a fine ball handler and a good passer on the left side. He put one right on Chechile's foot. The goalie had no chance. It was 3-0 at halftime and that's the way it stood in the first crucial game of the week for AHS. They looked confident and sharp in grabbing the win.

The Brownies came home to play Northampton on Monday night. Before the game, AHS Coach Dwight Northrup told us, "I guarantee we'll win." It was lots of bravado. But Northrup sees what he has. "The team is peaking at exactly the right time," he observed.

And this 'Hamp contest was almost a carbon copy of the Holyoke game, even down to the final score, 3-0 AHS.

The initial goal was scored by senior midfielder Brian Chechile at 38:09 of the first half. And that's where it ended at the intermission horn, 1-0.

At 18:15 of the second half, sophomore fullback Chris Bitzas accepted a pass and drove it home for a 2-0 Brownie lead. Six minutes later, Chris Chechile finished off the scoring and thus finished off Northampton. Northrup was pleased. But he knew the score could have easily been 6-0, Agawam. The locals had 32 shots on goal as opposed to five for 'Hamp.

Please remember that our deadline is Tuesday at noon. But we appreciate those who bring in their copy on Monday. We open weekdays at 6:30 a.m. Thank-you.



AGAWAM HIGH BOYS' soccer Coach Dwight Northrup and members of his 1994 soccer team are en route to a tournament berth in Division I in Western Mass.
photos courtesy of David Pulaski.

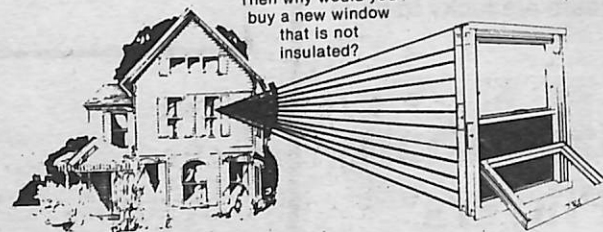
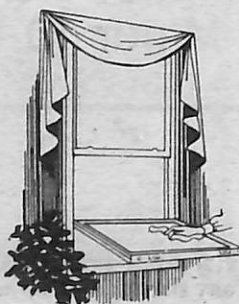


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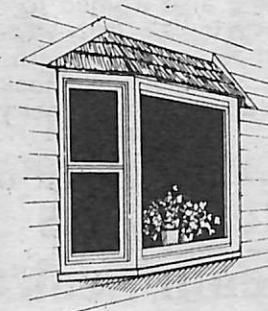
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Bow Season Opens In NH

The bow season in New Hampshire opened September 15th and archers have been hunting statewide since the opening gun.

Reports from registration stations show that, as of October 3rd, archers had taken 390 deer. The highest number of deer have been registered at stations in Hillsborough County (60), Cheshire County (53), and Grafton and Rockingham Counties (52 each). These followed by Merrimack (40), Belknap and Strafford (35 each), Sullivan (33), Coos (18), and Carroll (12).

New Hampshire's bear season opened September 1st. Ninety-four bear had been reported taken as of September 30th, compared to 147 for the same time period last year. Still, hunting success was down 35 percent, with 55 bear taken this year and 73 last year.

Almost one-third fewer bear have been taken over bait (35 compared to 52 in 1993). Biologist Eric Orff thinks the earlier opening of the regular firearms season this year may result in more bear being taken by deer hunters. In 1992, the first year of the split bear season, deer hunters killed 26 bear; in 1993, they took 18 bear.

The firearm season will open November 2nd and run through November 27th.

In 1993, hunters killed 9,889 deer. Of that number, 6,642 deer were killed by firearms, 878 with bow and arrow, and 2,369 with muzzleloaders.

Hunters in New Hampshire can help provide and improve habitat for deer in New Hampshire by donating the hides from deer they kill to "Hides for Habitat."

Hunters bring their prepared deer hides to the drop-off locations. The hides are sold to a tannery through a competitive bidding process and the proceeds are used to improve habitat by maintaining and purchasing deer yards.

Lands owned by Hancock Timber Resources Group and managed by Wagner Forest Management have been selected for habitat restoration efforts as prescribed by Fish and Game's wildlife and habitat biologists. These lands encompass some 63,000 acres in nine northern New Hampshire towns, and include portions of the important Androscoggin deer wintering area.

New Hampshire hunters are joining hunters in 24 other states to provide food for the hungry.

100 Pounds Of Venison Already Donated

Through the "Hunt for Hungry" program, Granite State hunters can contribute part of all of the game they kill to the New Hampshire Food Bank, which distributes food to a network of food pantries. Bowhunters have already provided 100 pounds of venison.

In one of the most ambitious pro-hunting educational efforts ever undertaken, the National Shooting Sports Foundation has launched a program to place pro-hunting materials in 40,000 schools this year and to reach 100,000 schools by the end of 1996. More than 18 million students could view these programs annually if the NSSF effort is totally successful.

Emphasizing the "Un-endangered Species" theme, which highlights the success of sportsmen-supported wildlife management in restoring many species of once-threatened wildlife to abundance, the NSSF's educational effort features three separate videos for elementary, junior, and senior high schools.

The second program, entitled "What They Say About Hunting—An In-Depth Look at the Hunting Controversy," offers students an examination of the hunting controversy and includes the official position statements on hunting of major conservation and preservation organizations.

The third program, "Wildlife for Tomorrow," is an elementary school version of "The Un-endangered Species" and is designed for use in grades 4-7. Both "The Un-endangered Species" and "What They Say About Hunting" are designed for use in grades 8-12.

Almost without exception, educators are rating the program extremely high and using it extensively.

Sportsmen's clubs and individuals are urged to support the NSSF's effort by purchasing programs for free distribution to schools in their communities. To maximize distribution, NSSF has priced the programs at only \$7.95, plus \$1.50 handling. For additional information, write Educational Dept., NSSF, 11 Mile Hill Road, Newtown, CT 06470-2359.

For the third consecutive year, the Connecticut DEP is stocking broodstock salmon into the Shetucket River and Naugatuck River.

The salmon are five year-old fish and weigh up to 18 pounds, and are no longer needed in the hatcheries.

The DEP is planning to stock 150 in each river. The fishing season for atlantic salmon is presently open in each of these areas.

Check our
classified

Powerful Rams End Field Hockey Hopes For Tourney, 7-1

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Even though at the start of the season Agawam High field hockey Coach Cindy Grieve knew her young Brownies would have it tough (they lost 14 players from last year's tournament squad), she still felt she could coach them into another Western Mass. Tournament berth.

She tried mightily. But the hammer and reality came down on Tuesday afternoon when the Brownies traveled down Route 57 to face mighty Southwick High, a team the locals have never beaten. Over the past few years, AHS has inched closer and closer to the Rams. Not in 1994.

The Rams are this year's Southern Division leaders (no surprise) with a record of 9-0-1 (12-1-1 overall). It was a tall order for the 4-4-3 Brownies (4-7-3 overall) to fill. A loss here would dash any playoff hopes as well. The final was 7-1, Rams.

The irony of it all was the fact that AHS scored first. Junior fullback Erica Pratt beat Ram goalie Jessica Bishop, who is considered one of the best at that position in Western Mass.

Then the Rams came back and scored twice. That's where Miss Grieve felt like she had something sour stuck in her craw. "They quit," she said, referring to her Brownies.

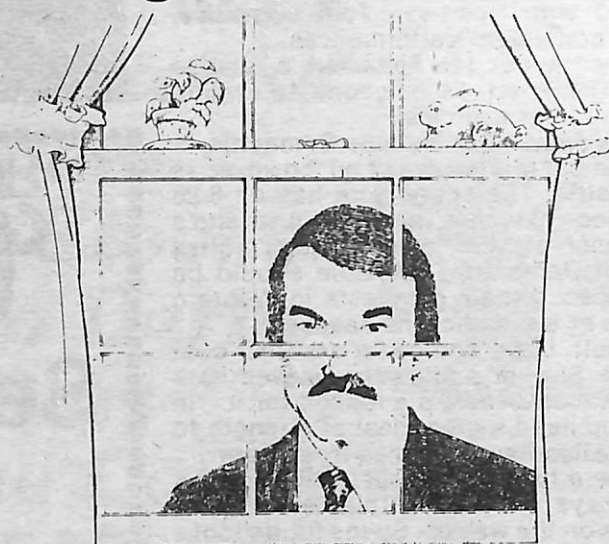
You have to talk to this former field hockey player and all-around athlete to understand how objectionable quitting in a game is to her. "We played well early on. We could have won this game," she sighed. The Rams led at halftime, 6-1.

It was 1-0 Rams in the second half. Much better play in the first half might have meant a lot. "We need to believe in ourselves," Miss Grieve told us. "We can talk about winning. But talk is cheap, just like excuses."

The coach stressed the Brownies should have had two more divisional wins this year vs. Minnechaug and East Longmeadow, as well as a non-conference win over South Hadley. She also stressed that when facing the big iron, the locals lost big time - Smith Academy, Greenfield.

SEE FIELD HOCKEY - Page 56...

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Agawam

Brownie Gymnasts Zooming In On Division B Crown

by Dave Rollins
News Editor

Heather Sawyer, coach of the Agawam High girls' gymnastic team, notes about one of her club's qualities, "They're young and they have a young coach." She also adds, "And they're getting better all the time."

That's good news for Agawam, not so good news for the Brownies' gymnastic opponents.

Miss Sawyer has no seniors on this squad. Having no seniors would seem to be a negative aspect. After all, their experience is supposed to help in the leadership department. Miss Sawyer isn't worried. She has enough talent to overcome any real or imagined scarcity of leadership. "The girls on this team are capable of performing well in any event," she says. Then she noted, "We're learning from our mistakes." And after every meet, they gather and critique everything they did.

There are four disciplines in girls' gymnastics on the high school level: vaulting, balance beam, uneven bars, and floor exercises. Miss Sawyer took time to talk about those events and how her team does regarding them. The vault consists of a long run, a hop onto a springboard, and a leap over a vaulting horse. Once airborne, the vaulter does a flip, a spin, or a combination of both, ending it all with a solid, steady landing. It's a high speed, complicated exercise. One of her best vaulters this year is junior **Veronica Pierce**. At practice, Pierce had a personal best of 7.3 (out of a possible 10) at the recent Chicopee Comp meet.

The balance beam is perhaps one of the most dangerous exercises. One false move on the narrow beam and it's a quick, four foot drop to the floor. Where, on the way down, you may or may not collide with the beam.

Kelly Mullen One Of The Best

According to Miss Sawyer, one of the best on the team is sophomore **Kelly Mullen**. She has a 7.44 score this year in that discipline. Miss Sawyer is pleased with the fact that all the work they've done staying on the beam is finally beginning to pay off.

The floor exercise is perhaps the most graceful of the four. It's basically highly athletic dancing to music done on a broad mat over a large section of the gym floor. Miss Sawyer has a bunch of girls who excel in this event. She calls them her "all-arounders" because they are good at every discipline. Her captain, junior **Becky White**, has scored an 8.1 on the floor this year. Kelly Mullen also excels here. She has scored 7.7. The coach is also impressed with freshman **Toni Logvidice**, who has given consistent performances.

She mentioned junior **Jen Spaarver**, a relative newcomer to the sport as someone to watch, especially in the floor exercise.

Great Things Ahead For Melanie Demastrie

Perhaps the most impressive of all, however, is **Melanie Demastrie**. The sophomore has an 8.25 score in the floor exercise this year. And she's perhaps the best of the "all-arounders." Miss Sawyer says of Demastrie, "Melanie should be among the top six female gymnasts in Western Massachusetts at the end of the season."

While the vault, floor, and beam are their best exercises, Miss Sawyer admits the uneven bars still need some work. There's a reason for it. "In high school, you need a great deal of strength to master them." Miss Sawyer thinks frosh **Tara Freeman** will be a future standout in that event.

The coach says she has a talented crop of junior high girls on the way up. So the future looks bright. Currently, they're battling for the B Division crown. If they win it, they'll move up a level to the A Division where the competition is tougher. But with their bright young talent, they should be able to handle anything their opponents can throw at them.

FIELD HOCKEY - from Page 55...

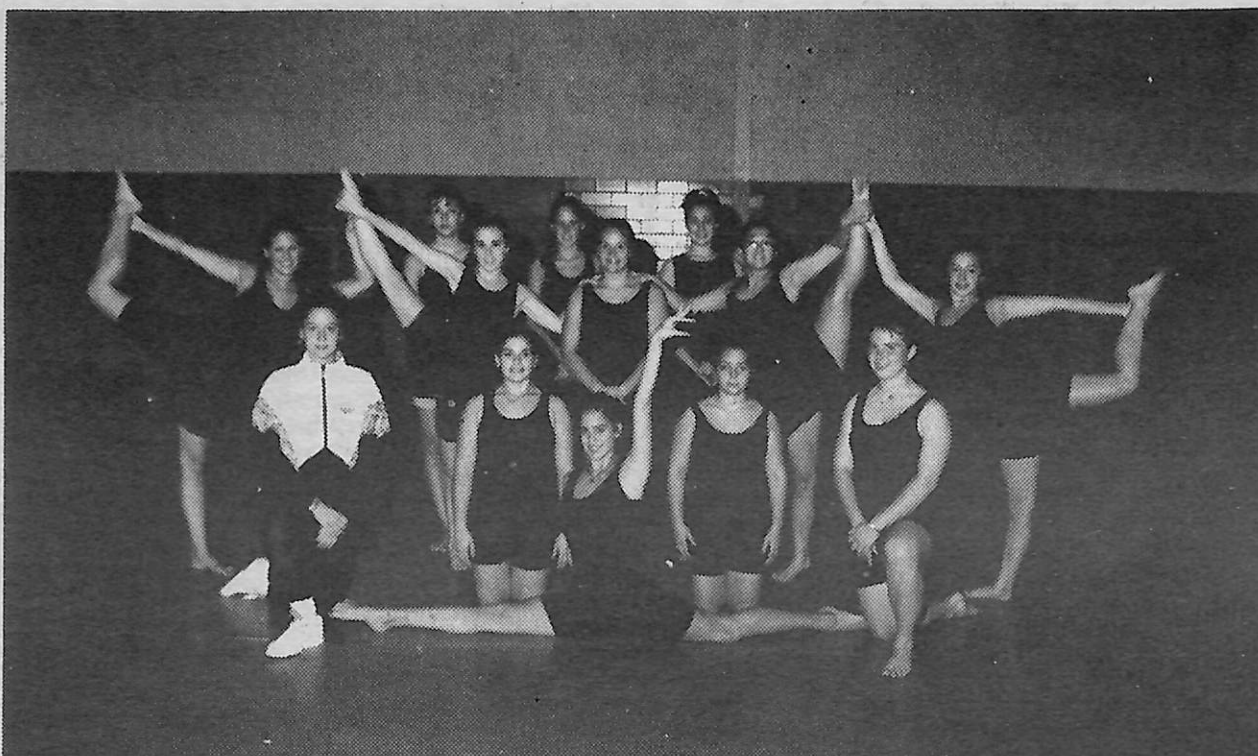
Amherst, and yes, Southwick (twice). "We needed an out-of-mind effort against them (the Rams)," she told us.

The Brownies have no top scorers this year but they do have some talented people ready to step in and become forces in 1995. Becky Wing is one. Add Erica Pratt to that list. Juniors Jen Giroux and Kirsten Decoteau seem ready.

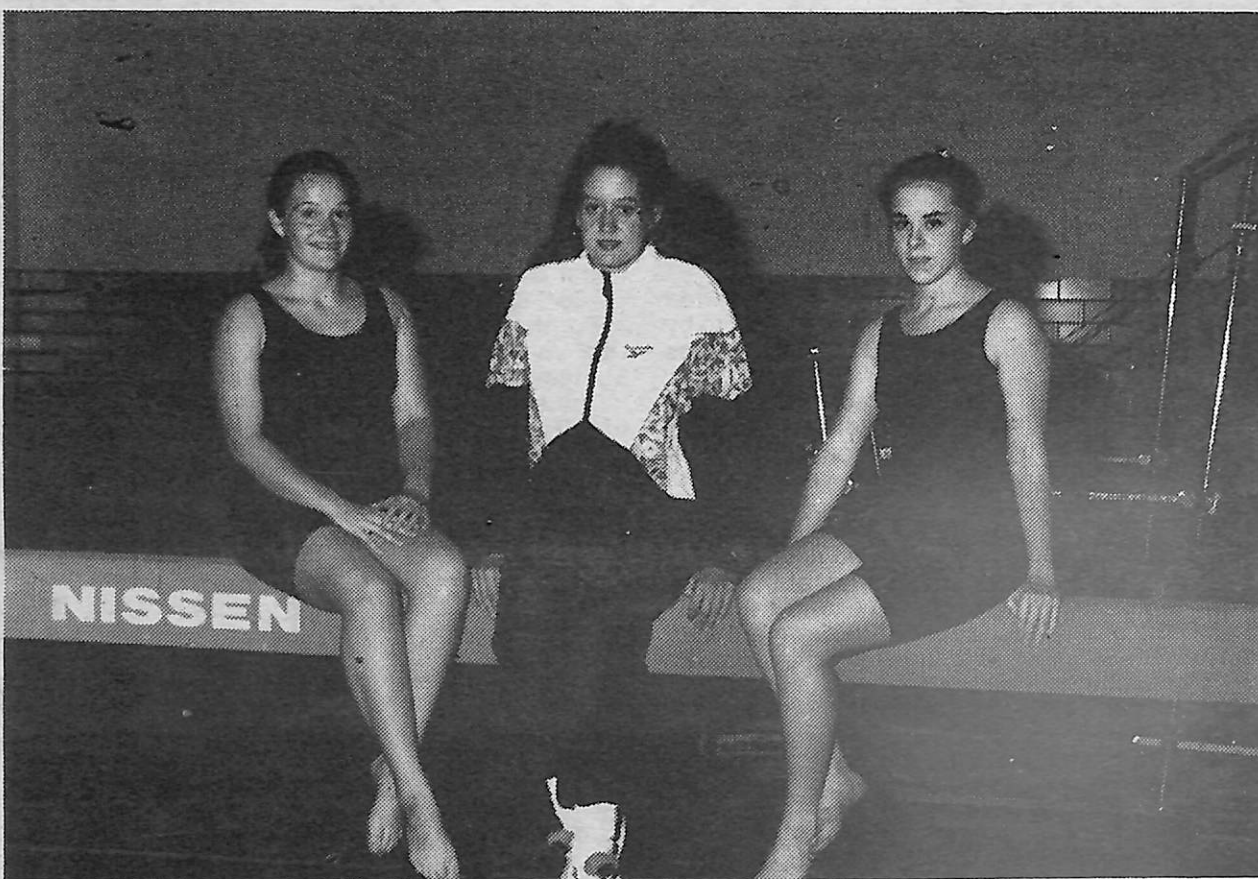
Miss Grieve, in her ninth year at the AHS field hockey helm, is more than ready to have her club return to the tournament and give the Longmeadows and the Southwicks all they can handle once again.

The Brownies' 1994 season ended at presstime (Wednesday) with a game vs. Westfield.

Best local news...



COACH HEATHER SAWYER, girls' gymnastic coach at Agawam High School, has her charges working on all cylinders so far this year. The coach is pictured with her team (photo above) and two co-captains (photo below). photos courtesy of David Pulaski.



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Central Gridmen Plow Thru AHS For Easy Win

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Towards the end of last Friday night's Agawam High/Central football game, the Brownie cheerleaders should have changed their chant from "Go Brownies," to "Did anyone get the number of that truck?" Many of us did. It was C-E-N-T-R-A-L 41-0. This one was just a good, old fashioned, down home butt kicking.

Be advised. Despite all the hype Central gets, they aren't that good. And Agawam isn't nearly as bad as that 41-0 rout indicated. It was just one of those things that occasionally happens in sports—you go completely off the radar scope.

It was a situation that forced the large contingent of Agawam High faithful to sit on their hands while the Golden Eagles swooped in and burnt the Brownies. There was nothing pretty about this one. It was like a multiple car rush-hour wreck on 91. But it happens.

Not Exactly What Votzakakis Planned

This was supposed to be another showcase for Agawam's star tailback, Jason Votzakakis. Forget it. He never got off the launch pad. A hip-pointer early on made him about as effective at running the ball as your grandmother. You could see his frustration when he finally stripped off his shirt and called it a game at the end of the second quarter. For you statistically minded, his numbers read: three carries, three net yards, one fumble. That's a little off the mark for a guy who's been averaging roughly 161 yards a game. Any of you who have ever suffered a hip-pointer and tried at all to play football, much less walk, will understand.

The spotlight went instead to the Golden Eagles' star running back, 5'9", 175-pound junior Keshawn Dodds. He put up Votzakian numbers; 24 carries, 196 yards, and five TD's. Brownie Coach Dean Vecchiarelli explained why. "They controlled the line of scrimmage. It was just that simple."

Consider this chronicle of runs from this reporter's notebook on Central's opening drive of the ballgame. Number 32 is Dodds; 33 is his running mate, 5'11", 185-pound fullback Torrel Brown. We start it from the Central 40: 32 - 10 yards and a first down; 32 - no gain; 32 - seven yards; 33 - three yards to Agawam 39, first down; 33 counter for six yards; 33 middle for four and a measurement - first and 10 at the 29; 32, 1/2 yard loss; 32 - four yards; 32 - three yards, fourth and three at 20; 32 - three yards and first down; first and 10 at 17; 32 - 7; 32 - 3 yards, first and goal on the six; 33 - 2, second and goal on the 4; 32 - 4 yard carry up the gut - touchdown! Central controlled the ball for 6:30 on that opening drive. They opened holes in the Agawam defensive line that the band could have marched through.

I hope you get my point. As Rod Steiger said to Marlon Brando in *On The Waterfront*, "This ain't our night, kid." If you saw that classic, you'll understand. Let me elaborate further.

Early on, before he went down, Agawam tried to run Votzakakis. He was not going to be effective against a big Central defensive line unless he got support from his offensive line. They are a good and experienced line. Well, maybe that line was on the field physically. But on this night, their minds were on the sidelines buying hot dogs.

Vecchiarelli once again; "We lost this game at the line of scrimmage." Believe it, folks, coaches might not be psychologists, but they do know how and why their teams win or lose. That's their job. The coach is right on.

Lauro's Day Will Come

Let's give you some more stats on this one. Sophomore Matt Lauro, the young and talented quarterback of the future, started for the Brownies. He'll be steel one day. But on this night, he had to be tempered by the fire of the Golden Eagles' pass rush. On this night, not only did he have no chance; he had no clue. He attempted 11 passes. He completed three for 12, five, and six yards, and was intercepted one time. He was sacked once.

In the waning moments of the third quarter, Vecchiarelli pulled the kid and sent in veteran signal caller Dave Curley (2-4, 20 yards). But by then it was over. Central dominated the fourth quarter. Vecchiarelli also noted, "They have to forget about this one." That's sage advice.

I must mention one bright note in this game for the Brownies; one of their six captains, Brian Colby. The 6'2", 195 pound senior wide receiver is a natural born leader who could pump up the residents of a graveyard. He just never stops coming at you.

Central now rises to a 5-1 record and a perfect 3-0 slate in the tough Double A Conference. Agawam falls to 3-3 and a 2-1 conference slate.

Brownies Prepare For Panthers On Friday

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

As they continue to recover from the trauma of that 41-0 loss to Central High last week, the Agawam High football Brownies continue to prepare for another worthy foe - the Panthers of Springfield Cathedral.

Cathedral is another familiar AA Conference team. CHS is 4-1 overall and fourth in the conference at 1-1. AHS is 3-3 and second in the conference at 2-1. So, if the Brownies want a shot at overtaking Central, which leads the show at 3-0, they can't afford to lose this one.

Towards that end, the locals have scouted Cathedral extensively. Offensive line Coach Eric Lunden headed the scouting efforts so he knows the Panthers well.

He notes that like most teams these days, the Panthers run out of the multiple I-formation. "They have a lot of weapons that make that forma-

tion effective for them," Lunden emphasized.

Panthers Have Fine QB

Among these weapons, 5'9", 180-pound senior quarterback Jim Cronk is most noteworthy. "He's tough and he can run and throw well," said Lunden. Cronk is also a safety on defense and according to Lunden, "he's a missile out there and a big hitter."

Receiver Dave Danker is Cronk's favorite target. Danker, at 6'3", 180-pounds, is a tough man to cover. He's aggressive with good moves. That's why he gets so much double coverage most of the time.

Lunden says the Panthers like it when Danker is doubled because "now they will get single coverage on their wideouts."

SEE CATHEDRAL COMING - Page 58...

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Holy Cross Leader In Tri-Parish Monday Night Bowling League

The Tri-Parish Bowling League continues to push on into the fall months as Holy Cross (11 wins) is in first place followed by Fordham (10 wins/2nd place).

Holy Cross took on sixth place Boston College (7 wins). HC winners were FRANK CERPOVICZ (295) and Captain JOHN REILLY, who really saved the day by bashing BC Captain JOHN MLINEK, 341-279. Reilly is in second place in Men's AA at 106.8 while Mlinek is in fifth place in Men's A at 93.4. BC winners were leadoff TINA FRAPPIER at 279 and "Jungle" JIM MCORMICK at a nifty 318. Tina is in second place in Women's B at 88.8 and "Jungle" Jim rolls at a 106.0 clip in the unclassified division.

Fordham stayed close to HC after facing last place St. Mary's (8th place). Fordham winners were MARY THOMAS (272-268 over LARRY FORTIER), TONY "I'm Not A Captain" KOZAK (296), and the league's top roller, OLLIE MULDER, 351. "Jollie" Ollie leads the entire circuit at 117.5. He soundly defeated St. Mary's Captain STEVE BONESTEEL (312). Bonesteel leads the Men's A in rolling at 104.

The only winner for St. Mary's was veteran leadoff roller STELLA BARBIERI (320). Stella leads the Women's B at 93.3. Mary Thomas for Fordham is in second at 91.11 in Women's A and "I'm Not A Captain" Kozak is in third place in Men's B at 92.1.

Third place St. Louis (9 wins) faced fifth place Georgetown (8 wins). St. Lou winners were AUDREY PHILLIPS (245-242 over MARSHA DOBIE) and TOM "Not Tony" CURTIS (303). G-Town was led by DON "Don't Sit On" STITT, JR. (275), and Captain DEBBIE POIRIER, the top roller in the league for the women and second overall (113). Debbie fired a strong 344 in defeating St. Lou Captain GLEN ADAMS (316, 102.2 in Men's A).

"Not Tony" Curtis rolls at a 102.0 clip in Men's A (third), while Audrey Phillips is in third place in Women's C at 79.9.

In the final matchup of the night, fourth place St. Anselm (8½ wins) faced seventh place Notre Dame (5½ wins). St. A's winners were leadoff GUS FRAPPIER (264), VENETTA SNYDER (261), and Captain LOU MULDER (320). Mulder soundly thrashed ND Captain FLORENCE ROCHFORD (286). Mulder is in third place in Men's AA at 105.7, while Florence is at 97.6 in the unclassified division.

The only winner for ND was third roller JOHN LONCINI (309, first in Men's B at 99.8). Mr. Frappier rolls at 84.9 in Men's C, while Venetta rolls at an 87.9 clip in Women's B.

PANTHERS COMING - from Page 57...

CHS also features two fine running backs. One is 5'9", 180-pound Dana Moody and the other is 5'10" Jeff Galarneau. Both are seniors on this senior dominated team.

Of Moody, Lunden tells us, "He'll run right over you if you try to take him on flat-footed." Galarneau had two TD's in the Panthers 14-7 win last week over Chicopee Comp. Lunden noted, "They both get to the hole very fast. And even though they aren't a big team, they block well."

The Panthers also use audibles, which is rare for a schoolboy team. Audibles tend to confuse the defense. So the Brownies will have to be prepared for that.

"They run a lot of formations on defense which feature a lot of guys on the line: 5-2, 6-1, 4-4, and 4-3," Lunden says. "They'll try to take advantage of our passing problems."

Working On The Passing Game

To that end, the Brownies have been working extra hard this week on their passing game. Sophomore Dan Lauro is pencilled in as the starter. This time out they'll have him take three-step drops and utilize quick pass patterns. Central defenders were all over him last Friday night.

Lunden says the Brownies want Lauro to complete some passes early to build up his confidence.

In order to make that plan completely effective, they need to run the ball well. That might be a problem. According to the Brownie coaching staff, senior tailback Jason Votzak is questionable at presstime because of that hip-pointer he suffered last week vs. Central. They have a point (no pun intended). This reporter saw Votzak earlier in the week in practice. He had more than a little limp.

The Brownies will obviously have to play much better "D" vs. Cathedral than they did vs. Central. "We have to tackle better and be ready to play emotionally," Lunden told us.

The two teams engaged in a wild, 34-34 tie a year ago in Springfield in a game the Brownies thought was theirs.

This year's battle is at Harmon Smith Field on Friday night. Kickoff time is 7:00 p.m. This is a must game for both teams. If Votzak plays and plays well, make it 20-14, Agawam.

Sports Of The 90's...

Are Sports Of The Good Ole Days Really Better?

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

How many times have we heard certain sports fans yearn for the good old days; for times more innocent and less complicated? No one has yet been able to explain to me what is so bad about sports now? And please, let's leave out the money aspect and bank the fires of our jealousy in that area for just a minute.

I don't think it gets much better than this. On all levels, we're seeing athletes that are bigger, faster, better conditioned, and yes, better educated than ever before. They're more in control of themselves because they know how important it is to take care of their bodies. They are products of a long lineage of human research and development. An analogy: will anyone argue that a Dodge Viper is a bit more upscale (maybe not class-wise, but certainly performance-wise) than a Model T?

Here's some food for thought. I won't bet the farm on it. But I'll contend that Babe Ruth, no matter how great he was way back then, could not crack the starting lineup of a Major League team today. I'll bet the great female golfer, Babe Zaharis, couldn't make the women's tour today.

Today, Red Grange would have (in all probability) been cut by any pro team he tried to make. I don't think Roger Bannister would make the local track team today. Our current national champion college football and basketball teams could more than likely embarrass any of the professional champions in those sports from 50 or more years ago.

Did you ever take a second look at those ancient athletes? Many were all big butts and guts (would you ever mistake Ruth for a body-builder, or even Sam Huff, for that matter?) that threatened at any minute to keel them over. They rode trains and old cars to their games. Many of them drank, and drank heavily.

Many of them had questionable friends who weren't above asking for a favor or two here and there that might add a little bit more lining to the pockets of both parties. Some of their owners were bootleggers, or perhaps gangsters or crooked politicians. Guys with more baggage on board than the evening Amtrak train out of Springfield.

Scientific Aspects Of The Game?

Their coaches, not to mention their trainers, didn't have a clue to the scientific aspects of the

game. Today, Lou Gehrig would have been yanked at the first sign that something wasn't quite right with him. Then, Miller Huggins probably thought the "Iron Horse" was suffering from a cold. That doesn't mean any of them weren't tough. I'm sure many were.

They just didn't know much about the side of sports that gives you the opportunity to improve. Can you imagine any baseball player going to the plate now without a helmet? Did you know they once played football at all levels without them?

Was the Polo Grounds a great place to play? I don't think so. I don't think Ebbets Field was, either, nor were any of those other ancient ballparks. They only seem wonderful because they are etched in many sports fans' minds like the proverbial Field of Dreams. Today's athletes, probably on just about every level, would refuse to play on them.

There's only one reason why many people think the good old days were, indeed, the good old days — distance and time. Sometimes we regret and reflect. Sometimes the dim, enticing memory of the past, tempered by the aging process, begins to take on a soft and easy aura.

It becomes much more comfortable than watching baseball players cavort around the bases, taunting the pitcher they just took downtown. Could you ever imagine Ruth or Gehrig or Jackie Robinson doing that, or the pass receiver or running back acting like a moron in the end zone after a touchdown catch?

Could you ever imagine Lance Alworth or Boyd Dowler or Steve Largent doing that; or the punk tennis player at the net berating the officials; or the basketball player doing the same thing to an opponent he's just taken to school?

Could you imagine Bill Russell or Oscar Robinson doing that?

Today, it's a show. And if you can get through all the hype and tripe and the very few idiots that come with it, you will be entertained and left a bit awestruck. The show is bigger, better, faster, and yes, in some ways objectionable.

Intelligent people must overlook that, however. Twenty, 30, or 40 years from now, what will those of us lucky to be alive say of this time? Probably "you should have seen the good old days."

Ag. Soccer Association Standings

UNDER 10 BOYS	W L T P	UNDER 12 BOYS	W L T P
P. LeClair	8 1 1 17	McLean Green Machine	8 1 2 18
C. Carr	6 2 1 13	Campana Yellow Jackets	8 2 0 16
M. Knodler	6 3 0 12	Adamski Red Devils	6 2 3 15
B. Hayden	4 5 1 9	Chretien Blue Lightning	4 4 3 11
C. Roos	3 6 1 7	Drewniak Maroon	3 6 2 8
B. Sabola	3 6 0 6	Hamre Blue Bombers	2 6 3 7
R. Martin	1 8 0 2	Pilegi Orange Crush	3 8 0 6
		Mouneimneh White Knights	1 7 3 5

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Both Youth Football Teams Fall To Northampton

The town's two youth football teams battled inclement weather as well as teams from Northampton this past Sunday (October 23rd). A good crowd gathered to watch the final home game of the season at Phelps Field.

The young Warriors were defeated 46-6 by the visiting Northampton players. Even though the score was lopsided, the young Warriors had some bright moments.

Agawam's Jesse Kelleher ran well all afternoon. He had 45 yards on 10 carries. Jesse scored the Agawam touchdown on a great 28-yard run in the third period.

Other leading runners for Agawam were Joe Lancour, Jeff Robinson, Matt Dion, and Dan Richards. Quarterback Joel Lancour threw some great passes to his receivers. Matt Dion had two receptions for 21 yards, and Jesse Kelleher had one catch for 15 yards.

The defense was led in tackles by Dan Richards. He was followed by Ryan Lottermoser, Jesse Kelleher, Matt Dion, Brian Pedersen, Joel

Lancour, Bill Menard, Bo Fydenkevez, Andy Siana, Mike Locke, Joe Prova, Nick Beaudette, Andy Huffman, and Isidro Aquinaga.

Coaches Menard, Burke, and Lancour kept the players' heads high all through this agonizing defeat.

The Senior Warriors had the Devils on the run right off the bat. Quarterback Brian St. Jean fired off passes to Jim Dziedzina and Bob Fuller. Running back Mike Buoniconti weaved through the Northampton defense.

Agawam scored first on a two-yard run by Buoniconti. The extra point conversion failed. However, Agawam was bitten again by their old nemesis—the kickoff return. Northampton scored on the kickoff and made the extra points; the visiting Blue Devils also scored again in the first half.

Agawam opened the second half with a good kickoff return of 18 yards by Bob Fuller. However, the Warriors could not cross the goal line again.

The Blue Devils scored once more for a 22-6 victory over Agawam.

Jason Daigneau led all receivers for the day. He was followed by Jim Dziedzina, Bob Fuller, Mike Buoniconti, and Vinny Buoniconti. Mike Buoniconti had 46 yards on 16 carries.

Other leading runners for the Warriors were Matt Slattery, Jim Dziedzina, Vin Buoniconti, Ryan Drobot, and Russ Smith. Brian Gallagher and Mike Buoniconti led the defense with five tackles each; they were followed by Bob Fuller, Mike Martin, Russ Smith, Adam Cottuli, Jerry Graves, Ryan Drobot, Jim Dziedzina, Ron Liard, and Vin Buoniconti.

Injuries plagued the Warriors all afternoon, but the coaches (Biebel, Graves, St. Jean, Murphy, and Parker) made sure the players coming in were well-prepared to step right into the action.

The Agawam Youth Football teams travel to Westfield this Sunday (October 30th) for their season finale.

Agawam Soccer Assoc. STANDINGS (As Of October 23rd)

GIRLS UNDER 10	W L T P
Francis' Lady Bugs	9 1 0 18
Prisbey's Blue Bullets	7 1 2 16
Adam's Blue Jays	4 4 2 10
Kelley's Golden Girls	4 5 1 9
Keenan's Red Devils	1 7 2 4
Ruhl's Green Goblins	0 6 3 3

GIRLS UNDER 12	W L T P
Davilli's Maroon Machine	7 1 0 14
Obue's Yellow Jackets	5 2 1 11
Spear's Green Lightning	4 3 2 10
Feeley's Bruisers	2 5 1 5
Denises Tigers	1 8 0 2

COED UNDER 17	W L T P
Heneghan's Royal Blue	4 1 2 10
Brinn's Green	4 3 0 8
Roy's Gold	2 3 2 6
Shaw's Smashers	1 4 2 4

COED UNDER 14	W L T P
DeFilipi's Greyhounds	8 0 1 17
Blair's Blue Blasters	6 2 0 12
Francis' Mustangs	5 4 1 11
Cincotta's Green Leprechauns	4 5 0 8
Cortis' Red Devils	4 6 0 8
Shaw's Tigers	2 6 2 6
Rennell's Gold	0 6 2 2

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Gary Fioramanti Takes 1994 Late Model Title At Riverside Park

Riverside Park Speedway has a point fund worth \$61,880.68 for its competitors in all five divisions. Gary Fioramanti, a 10-year veteran of the Late Model Division, has won the prestigious Riverside Park Speedway Late Model Title worth \$2,186.20.

In 23 stars, Fioramanti had 20 top-10 finishes, 19 top five, two winds, and six top-five finishes. Fioramanti is the perfect example of a hard-working person with desire and determination.

The driver who manhandles the Late Model on weekends at Riverside is a hairdresser and beauty shop owner by trade. Car owner Peter Mariconda of Stratford teamed up with Fioramanti for the Championship year. Mariconda also had former champion Mike Quintaliano as a driver.

Gary Fioramanti started his Late Model career in the back yard with hand-built cars that he has successfully competed with over the years at Stafford, Riverside, Monadnock, and Thompson. His blue-and-white Teddy Bear Pools cars showed basic success winning a few events each year.

In 1994, Pete Mariconda and Gary Fioramanti decided to team up. Mariconda had first-class equipment and felt that Fioramanti had more experience than most for Late Models. It's didn't take long ... on July 9th, Fioramanti won his first race and, just two weeks after, another victory.

From then on, it was a dogfight battle with Gee Perry, one that even the experts still talk about. On three separate occasions, Fioramanti lost by just inches in close to photo finish. The electric blue number 2 was always the class of the field with lots of power from Fletcher's Auto Machine.

As for Gary, the title is a dream come true. "I have raced a long time in this class. After winning this title, now I feel that the records will show I am a champion," said Gary, adding, "I really hope this gives me a shot at moving up to a Pro Stock, Modified, or Busch car." Only time will tell if Gary gets the big ride.

On November 18th, Riverside will host the first of two 1,500 sold-out banquets, and sitting at the head table will be veteran Late Model driver Gary Fioramanti—the 1994 Riverside Park Speedway Late Model Champion who will be receiving his share of the \$61,880.68 Riverside Point Fund.

On March 25, 1995, Riverside will begin another season of racing action with "The Budweiser Big Chill."

Racing Banquets Have No Tickets Left At Riverside Speedway

Ben Dodge, Director of Auto Racing at Riverside Park Speedway, has done it again—a \$61,880.68 Point Fund and two sold-out awards banquets to total 1,500 people.

On Friday, November 18th, in The Oaks Ballroom, 750 people have bought tickets to salute the Winston Racing Series Champions. Friday's sold-out banquet will play host to champions Gary Fioramanti, Rob Valerio, and the Pro 4 Champion (to be decided by the final race this Saturday, October 29th). The Saturday, November 19th function will honor the NASCAR Winston Racing Series Champion Chris Koeck and Dave Caruso; again, this function is sold out.

Besides receiving point checks totaling \$61,880.68, over \$15,000 in specialty awards and plaques will be given to the top 10 owners and drivers—in all, five NASCAR Riverside Divisions. Over 100 specialty awards will also be selected, and these will include awards chosen by the fans.

Riverside competitors have received over 2,000 ballots in order to vote on special awards to be presented at the banquet. Among the nominated drivers for Modified Rookie are Tom Jensen, Doug Meservey, Jim Dolan, Brian Miller, and Tim Zambelli. In the Pro Stocks, Sumner Chapman, Barry Gray, Bennett Fuller, and Al Fradette are the leading contenders.

Meanwhile, in the Late Models, rookie nominees include Steve Fifield, Fred Alkas, Keith Minchella, Bob Kryoskie, Rick Hartenstein, Scott Hartford, and Matt Bushior. Other awards include Most Improved, Hard Luck, Professionalism, Most Popular, Best Appearing, and much more.

Besides all the point money and awards, the competitors' wives will receive a special gift, plus the 1994 Riverside Speedway record book of success (a special 20-page banquet book).

With its Grand Ballroom and fine dining, The Oaks is Ben Dodge's official banquet facility. This function is a semi-formal affair that is already sold-out and will be presented in part by Riverside's sponsors: Winston, Budweiser, Snap-On Tools, NAPA Auto Parts, and Acme Auto Supply.

For a free 1995 schedule, rules, etc., write after November 1st to Riverside Park Speedway, Box 307, Agawam, MA 01001.

Caruso Repeats As Riverside's Pro Stock King

Dave Caruso has secured his second back-to-back Riverside Park Speedway title. On November 18th and 19th, 1,500 people will salute the Riverside champions with a point fund of \$61,880.68 in two sold-out banquets.

In 22 starts, Caruso had 21 top-10 finishes that included 15 top-five finishes. He was able to finish fourth seven times, and these accomplishments (including two feature event wins) enabled him to secure his second title in the Pro Stock Division ... a title worth \$3,204.60 in Riverside Point Money.

Caruso has been a Pro Stock competitor at Riverside Park Speedway for 10 years. His professional-looking, black-and-blue 1X Pro Stock has always been a fan favorite, running up front. Fact is, the Caruso Pro Stock team has won the "Best Appearing Car" honors seven out of 10 seasons. This proves the Caruso Number 1X looks as good as it runs.

This year's title is celebrated on an even higher note than the 1993 title. Even though Dave was honored by his championship of 1993, it was a difficult season.

By mid-year, Dave and the Caruso family suffered a great loss by losing legendary driver and father Mario "Fats" Caruso. This, combined with other personal setbacks, made the title seem important; still, it was a time of sadness. The Caruso

family is unique in that all six brothers and their one sister have stuck together in support of Dave and the racing Caruso name.

In addition to Riverside's Pro Stock Division, Dave is involved with the family-owned Caruso team, which owns a Busch Grand National North car. However, Dave admits that the division he enjoys the most is the Modifieds.

During 1994, Dave was honored to be asked to drive one of Riverside's most famous Modifieds—the Bob Judkins famed 2X, which was driven to three championships by Jerry Marquis. In three race events, Caruso put the Judkins Modified into victory lane.

"After that Modified win, I was hooked. Get rid of the Busch Car, I enjoy the Modifieds," said Dave with a bold smile. "For 1995, we have decided to sell the Pro Stock to Matt Powers."

Matt has been heavily involved with Dave throughout the last three seasons. "This will give us the opportunity to build or buy a Modified and run selected events. It will also allow us to run the Pro Stocks again for another title," said Dave.

Riverside Park Speedway is proud of its Pro Stock Champion, Dave Caruso, and looks forward to the 1995 season, as racing begins on March 25, 1995 with "The Budweiser Big Chill." Call the speedway at 786-9300 for more information.

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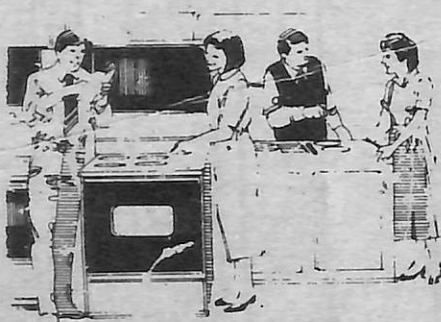
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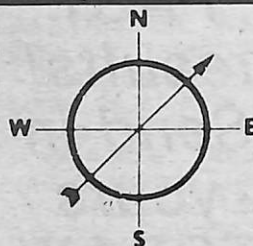
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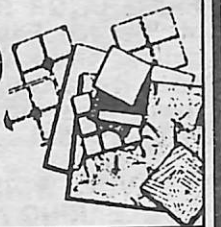
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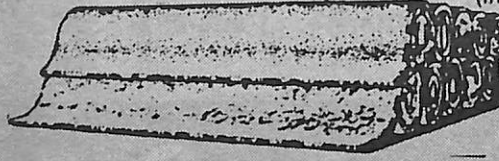
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FACTS V. RUMORS

RUMOR CAMPAIGN AGAINST CASINO PROPOSAL HAS SOME VOTERS CONFUSED

**NATIONWIDE
STUDIES
SHOW
THAT
CRIME
DOES NOT
INCREASE
WITH
CASINOS**

Opponents of legalized gaming have tried to connect it with increased crime. They're quick to point to places like Atlantic City (which is nothing like Agawam), citing the number of per capita crimes in the city of only 37,000 residents. The **trick** is, they don't count the cities 30 million annual visitors. When the real number of people is factored in, Atlantic City's crime rate drops **BELOW** that of other U.S. tourist destinations according to the 1992 Uniform Crime Report published by the South Jersey Transportation Authority. As a matter of fact, the rate of violent crimes in Atlantic City is **LOWER** today than in the year prior to the introduction of legalized gaming. Comparisons between Atlantic City and Agawam are ridiculous. Also remember that only 2.5 million people will visit the casino at Riverside.

If you think these facts are limited to Atlantic City, read on:

- In **Biloxi**, Mississippi, Police Chief Moffett reports **no disproportionate increase in crime** since the opening of casinos in his city.

- **Illinois** Senator Jacobs, when asked about the impact of legalized gaming in his state, replied: "We've increased tourism from five years ago by 20-fold....**It's not bringing in crime.** It is bringing in dollars to both the local economy and for the state."

- According to Mayor David Pierce, the crime rate in **Aurora**, Illinois, has actually **decreased** by two percent, despite an influx of more than two million visitors since a casino opened in Aurora in June, 1993. Also in Illinois, the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, in May of this year, released a report that noted that "...overall patterns of service calls and crime incidents in the city of Joliet remained stable or even **declined** after the riverboats began service."

- And here in **Massachusetts**, the Senate Committee on Post Audit and Oversight investigated the potential relationship between crime and casinos. After reviewing gaming statistics in exhaustive detail, the committee report reached the following conclusions: "...there is [no] demonstrated link between casino establishments and crime....Some communities experience a decrease in the incidence of crime."

In study after study, state after state, the facts remain consistent that gaming does not cause crime. The security measures taken by casinos and the increased revenues supporting police efforts can actually lower crime rates in most cities with legalized gaming.

**TRAFFIC
STUDY
CONFIRMS
AGAWAM
WILL FEEL
LITTLE
IMPACT**

There are all sorts of wild rumors floating around Agawam that traffic would be gridlocked throughout the town because of a casino. That is just plain wrong! Opponents cite statistics that are not based on facts, but their own rumors.

VHB, Inc. - the largest traffic planning and engineering firm in New England - performed a comprehensive analysis of the Riverside project, and reported that traffic will not be a problem. The report was part of Riverside's decision to move ahead with their proposal. Ask yourself this simple question - "Why would Riverside want to build this facility if no one could get to it?" The answer is just as simple - they wouldn't!

Traffic increases will be minimal and very manageable (only 57 cars on average per hour through Agawam). Most of the traffic will come from Connecticut, and won't even travel past Riverside.

Also, opponents invented the scenario that there will be traffic problems when the casino, race track, and concerts all had events at the same time. The real problem is that they *invented* the scenario - because it just won't happen!

Agawam roads have more than enough capacity to handle the modest increase. And Riverside has pledged to pay for any work necessary (intersection upgrading, widened road at facility entrance to create most efficient enter/exit possible, and other improvements). Traffic will not be a problem.

**OUR STATE
ALREADY
HAS
LEGALIZED
GAMING**

Some opponents are saying that gaming is immoral - that this "type of thing" doesn't belong in Agawam or anyplace else in the state. But, we already have gaming here in Massachusetts. **The Lottery is the most successful in the country** - The Numbers Game, MassMillions, Megabucks, Scratch Tickets, and Keno are already here. We have horse and dog tracks scattered throughout the state. **Churches run Bingos** to raise money for church budgets. **Organizations run "Las Vegas Nights"** to raise money. Even the Springfield Union prints the "point spreads" on sports games - numbers which are used by office betting pools, and by people who place bets (not currently legal, but we all know it happens).

The River Belle II casino/entertainment complex will be a place for people to come and have fun. Casinos are the fastest growing form of entertainment attractions in the nation. Question 11 is not about whether Agawam should have gaming, because it's already here!

**COMPULSIVE
GAMING IS
NOT CAUSED
BY CASINOS**

According to experts in the field of gaming behavior, the instance of compulsive gaming is minute. **Problem gambling has never been shown to be caused by casinos.** Moreover, it exists in every state, whether or not some form of gaming is allowed by law.

Certainly, many activities can be habit-forming to some degree. **Consider the proliferation of such groups as Overeaters Anonymous and Alcoholics Anonymous, or the rise in the consumer debt nationwide due to compulsive shopping. Yet, no one would suggest limiting the availability of shopping malls or restaurants to reverse this trend.**

The Council on Compulsive Gambling of New Jersey reports a greater likelihood of addictive gaming among those who participate in illegal sports wagering, such as football pools. It should be noted that the casino industry has responded to concerns by putting systems in place to help individuals who cannot control their wagering.

Here in Agawam there have been incidents in the past of students who had problems with illegal sports betting - but no specific programs set up to help them. One of the benefits of a casino at Riverside is that resources will finally be available to help anyone in town who has this problem.

**CASINO WILL
BENEFIT
AGAWAM**

\$7 Million Dollars every year in new revenue for the town of Agawam. Funds which will allow the **Town to Hold Down Property Taxes**; purchase 125,000 new **textbooks** and over 2,000 **computers** for classrooms; fully fund the planned **School Building Expansions** for five schools; fund the expansion of the **Senior Center**; provide better **Transportation** for our Seniors; build a new **Fire Station**; and buy new **Fire Engines** and **Police Cruisers** for Agawam - and that's just within three years! These benefits - along with the **thousands of new jobs** that will be created - **will** help our community.

Keep Agawam First - vote YES on November 8th!

AGAWAM RESIDENTS SPEAK OUT IN FAVOR OF QUESTION 11

Frank and Helen Krupczak live on Main Street, near Riverside Park. "Riverside has always been concerned about their neighbors.



We are proud to live near the Park. And we are both voting "yes" on Question 11. Not only will our property tax bill be kept under control, but our town will be able to do some exciting things for the future. We also do not put any credence in the rumors of traffic problems - we know that everything will operate smoothly," said the Krupczaks.

Rick Neis, Pat Misichia, Roger Connor, Randy Holmes and Ken Rydell from R&R



Construction on Shoemaker Lane, all support Question 11. "Riverside is important to area businesses. A lot of contractors like R&R depend on Riverside for business. We can't afford to see their business decline - it will have a definite impact on the entire economy of our area. On the other hand, the construction and operation of the new facility will be great for our economy - new jobs and new business for thousands of workers and businesses. We can't afford to let this opportunity go by. We hope everyone votes "Yes" on Question 11," explained Roger Connor one of owners of R&R.

Bryan McGrath of Reed Street also



supports Question 11. "I know first-hand that we need jobs in our area. Recently, I was the manager of a restaurant in a nearby town, and had the unpleasant task of telling our 40 employees that we were closing the doors forever. It was tough. I'll be able to find another job - but how can Agawam say no to thousands of new jobs? This is just too important. When I vote 'Yes', I'll be voting to create good jobs for our area," Bryan said.

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Rosie Celik of Suffield Street, owner of "Rosie's" on Main Street is all for the project.

Ms. Celik said, "I think everybody should vote "yes". I know that area restaurants - large and



small - will get a big boost from a casino at Riverside. As a small business owner I know that Agawam needs more visitors to come here to spend their money. Also, the new tax revenue will help everyone who pays taxes in town - residents and businesses alike."

Chris Woods of Redwood Drive works at Riverside. "Riverside is a great place to work. All of the jobs here are important to the town. Sure, I earn my paycheck here - but I spend it in



Agawam. Question 11 means that the future of the park will be secure - and all of the jobs here, and it also means having thousands of more workers who will earn a decent living here - and spend their money here. It makes sense to vote yes," Chris said.

Debra Macey Taylor lives on Main Street. "The schools need a lot of things that the town can't afford. I am excited that we could invest more in education, everything from new books



to new buildings. To me Question 11 means that Agawam can have the very best for our school children - and that is the most important issue to me. I'm proud to be voting Yes," Debra explained.

**RIVER BELLE II
INFORMATION
HOTLINE
786 - 1444**

PUBLIC INVITED TO LEARN ABOUT RIVERSIDE'S PROPOSAL

Riverside has opened a special Information Center at 517 Springfield Street. The public is invited to stop by to view the model of the project, to ask questions, and to gather information on the project and the benefits it will bring to Agawam.

To date more than 1,200 people have stopped by to get information. If you haven't had a chance to visit the Info. Center, please try to find a few minutes.

The Information Center is open from 12:00 noon until 8:00 pm Mondays through Fridays, and 12:00 noon until 6:00 pm on Saturdays and Sundays.

Question 11 is an important issue for everyone in town, and Riverside is committed to answering everyone's questions.

**KEEP
AGAWAM
FIRST!**

**VOTE YES
ON
QUESTION 11**

**Hold Down
Property Taxes**

**Improve Town
Services**

**Create More
Jobs**

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